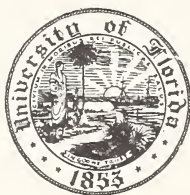


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HISTORICAL AND LITERARY REMAINS
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF
Lancaster and Chester.

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3. That the affairs of the Society be conducted by a Council, consisting of a permanent President and Vice-President, and twelve other members, including a Treasurer and Secretary, all of whom shall be elected, the first two at the general meeting next after a vacancy shall occur, and the twelve other members at the general meeting annually.
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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

NEW SERIES.

FIRST YEAR (1882-3).

- Vol. 1. The Vicars of Rochdale. By the late Rev. Canon Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Edited by HENRY H. HOWORTH, F.S.A. Part I. *pp.* xiii. 200.
- Vol. 2. The Vicars of Rochdale. Part 2. *pp.* 201-391.
- Vol. 3. Lancashire and Cheshire Wills and Inventories at Chester, with an Appendix of Abstracts of Wills now Lost or Destroyed. Transcribed by the late Rev. G. J. PICCOPE, M.A. Edited by J. P. EARWAKER, M.A., F.S.A. *pp.* x. 262.

SECOND YEAR (1883-4).

- Vol. 4. The *Catechisme, or a Christian Doctrine necessary for Children and Ignorant people*, of Lawrence Vaux, 1574, sometime Warden of the Collegiate Church, Manchester. Edited by T. G. LAW, Esq., Signet Library, Edinburgh. *pp.* cx. 111.
- Vol. 5. The Rectors of Manchester, and the Wardens of the Collegiate Church of that Town. By the late Rev. F. R. RAINES, M.A. Edited by J. E. BAILEY, F.S.A. Part I. The Rectors; Warden Huntingdon to Warden Chaderton. *pp.* xx. 100.
- Vol. 6. The Rectors of Manchester, and the Wardens of the Collegiate Church of that Town. Part II. Warden Dee to Warden Herbert. *pp.* 101-206.

THIRD YEAR (1884-5).

- Vol. 7. The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire. With Bibliographical and other Illustrations. By RICHARD COPLEY CHRISTIE. *pp.* xiii. 215.
- Vol. 8. The History of the Parish of Poulton-le-Fylde. By HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A. *pp.* 232.
- Vol. 9. The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Part I. The Furness Domains. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A. *pp.* 260.

FOURTH YEAR (1885-6).

- Vol. 10. The History of the Parish of Bispham. By HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A. *pp.* 143.
- Vol. 11. The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Part II. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A. *pp.* 261-536.
- Vol. 12. The Crosby Records. Edited by the Rev. T. E. GIBSON and the late Bishop Goss. *pp.* xxvi. 108.

FIFTH YEAR (1886-7).

- Vol. 13. A Bibliography of the Works Written and Edited by Dr. Worthington. By R. C. CHRISTIE. *pp.* vii. 88.
- Vol. 14. The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Part III. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, D.C.L. *pp.* lx. 537-728.
- Vol. 15. The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan. Part I. By the Hon. and Rev. CANON BRIDGEMAN. *pp.* vii. 180.

List of Publications—New Series.

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- Vol. 16. The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan. Part II. By the Hon. and Rev. CANON BRIDGEMAN. *pp.* 181-460.
- Vol. 17. The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan. Part III. By the Hon. and Rev. CANON BRIDGEMAN. *pp.* 461-684.
- Vol. 18. The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan. Part IV. By the Hon. and Rev. CANON BRIDGEMAN. *pp.* 685-836. (*Conclusion.*)

REMAINS
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CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF
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VOLUME 18. — NEW SERIES.

MANCHESTER :
Printed for the Chetham Society.
1890.



The Chetham Society.

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THE
History of the Church & Manor of Wigan
IN THE
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

BY THE HONOURABLE AND REVEREND
GEORGE T. O. BRIDGEMAN,

*Rector of Wigan, Honorary Canon of Liverpool, and
Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen.*

(AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF THE PRINCES OF SOUTH WALES," ETC.)

PART IV.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.
1890.



PRINTED BY CHARLES E. SIMMS,
MANCHESTER.

PREFACE.

IN giving the following pages to the public, I avail myself of the opportunity of thanking all those who have kindly favoured me with their help in connection with this work. Especially do I express my deep obligations to MR. CHANCELLOR CHRISTIE and MR. J. P. EARWAKER, for their great kindness in revising a considerable portion of the proofs, and for the valuable suggestions they have made. In compiling the history, I have made use of all the printed matter I could find on the subject, but I have had to derive much of my information from original sources. In each case, I have given a reference to the source from which I have taken it ; so that the reader may judge for himself of its value according to his estimate of the authority quoted.

Wigan Hall,

December 31, 1889.

History of the Church and Manor of Wigan.

PART IV.

WIGAN PARISH CHURCH.

THERE was a church at Wigan in King Edward the Confessor's time, but of any subsequent rebuilding or restoration we have no record till the year 1620, though there are traces of building of an intermediate date.

Whether any stones in the present church ever formed part of the original structure it is impossible to say. The oldest parts of the existing church are the lower portion of the tower or steeple and the lower portions of two turrets, with stone winding stairs leading to the roof, on the north and south of the chancel arch, which are built of red sandstone like that used in the tower. The old tower is an immensely solid structure, the walls of which are nearly seven feet thick, as may be seen where it is cut through to connect the vestry with the choir vestry, or robing room for the choir. Perhaps it was used in early times as a kind of fortress, to which the inhabitants could retire from their enemies in time of danger.

It is difficult to estimate the date of the oldest part of this tower, because the original string course is much decayed and a considerable portion of the old stonework has been at some time encased with cement in order to preserve the red sandstone from perishing. The date of the next building may be looked for in the lower window of the west wall of the tower, which was once an external wall. This window, which had been blocked up

when the Gerard chapel was built, was opened out again at the time of the last restoration in 1849. This and the two-light windows in the middle of the tower may possibly have been fourteenth century work, but are probably of a later date. The late Mr. Richard Burland of Poolstock, who contracted for some portion of the work of restoration, made some copious notes about the church as he recollected it before it was taken down, in which he says that "a number of carved stones were found built into the old structure, indicating the existence of former buildings of different dates as early as the Norman period." At what time the red stone of the tower was cased over and the upper windows built I cannot say, but it is not improbable that a work of restoration was commenced in the troublous times preceding the Tudor era, and that the chancel and adjacent chantries were then left unfinished.

The chancel was rebuilt in 1620 by bishop Bridgeman, at that time rector of the parish. Before that it was ruined and exposed to the weather, as were also the two side chapels. The portion of the nave nearest to it was used as a chancel, and occupied by the officiating minister and clerks, as also by the rector, his family, and servants.

It is probable that the Gerard chapel, adjacent to the north aisle of the church, with a family vault beneath it, which chapel may perhaps have occupied the site of an older chantry, or chapel with an altar served by the Gerard chaplain, was built about the same time as the chancel. This chapel, which now belongs to Humphrey Walmesley of Westwood House, in the parish of Wigan, Esq., as successor to the Gerards of Ince, was left untouched at the last restoration. The outer walls of the rest of the church, judging by the character of the windows, were probably rebuilt or repaired before the middle of the seventeenth century. There is an engraving of the church, as it was before the restoration, given in Baines's *History of Lancashire*; and I have also an oil painting of the church in my possession painted by Charles Towne in 1827.

Before the restoration the Legh chapel or north aisle of the chancel was used for a vestry, and the site of the present vestry was occupied by a building known as the bone house and a house for the gravedigger's tools. The church was filled up with unsightly galleries. A gallery ran the whole length of the south aisle up to the Bradshaigh chapel. This gallery was approached by a flight of stairs at the west end, and by another flight at the east end for the Earl of Crawford's pew, which occupied the eastern portion of the gallery. Under these latter stairs were two stone figures, being part of the monument to Sir William and dame Mabel Bradshaigh of Haigh, which were then removed to their proper place in the Bradshaigh chapel. The organ was situated in a gallery placed under where the chancel arch had been, the arch having been cut away to make room for it. It completely obstructed the view of the chancel from the church, as the passage under the organ was not more than 12 feet high. The organ and singers' gallery, in which it stood, were approached from the north turret. Mr. Coope was then organist, and Mr. Alker leader of the choir, part of which was composed, as Mr. Burland tells us, of boys from the National and Bluecoat School, who were robed in surplices.

There was a gallery at the west end of the church, which was occupied by the Mayor and Corporation, and next to it on the north-west end of the church was another gallery which had been erected by Peter Shakerley, Esq., for the use of strangers, as was recorded by an inscription in front of it. There was a gallery in the Gerard (or Walmesley) chapel, a gallery at the east end of the north aisle, and another in the arch of the tower looking into the church, which was used by the bellringers and approached from the belfry. The pulpit, reading desk, and clerk's desk, one above the other, with a sounding board over the pulpit, stood against the fourth pillar, near the centre of the church. The Altar, an oak Table with a black marble top, was the same as that now in use. A large piece of tapestry, representing the story of Ananias and Sapphira, hung over the back of it as a

reredos. This has lately been framed and put up over the south door.

The only parts of the old church now remaining in their former state, besides the tower and the Gerard (or Walmesley) chapel, are the lower portions of the turrets and some portion of the actual foundations. The rest of the church was taken down to the foundations, though much of it was built up again as it was before, and the old lines were strictly adhered to ; most of the stones of the old pillars, after being re-chiselled, were replaced, indeed, in their former position, but the capitals of the columns are new ; the angels, composed of *terra cotta*, on the corbels which support the roof are also new, though there were angels there before of carved oak. Much of the old oak roof, when taken down, was found to be sound, and was worked up again with the new, the exact pattern of the old work being strictly preserved. The chancel and Bradshaigh chapel were first taken down in 1845 and rebuilt by the rector and the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres respectively. The body of the church was pulled down in 1849, and the restoration completed in 1850, under the superintendence of Mr. Ed. G. Paley, architect, of Lancaster. The old tower was subsequently raised to make room for the clock. The windows of the old church were of the same character as those in the Walmesley chapel, except the east and west windows, the former of which was of a debased perpendicular and the latter of a decorated style. Under the west window was an entrance door, which was done away with at the restoration.

The old font, described by Mr. Burland as being "of classic design," was removed during the restoration. This was probably the font which had been put up in bishop Stratford's time. It was sold for a few shillings to Mr. Grimshaw, the borough coroner, who afterwards presented it, at the request of Mr. Burland, to St. George's church, of which Mr. Burland was then churchwarden, where there had previously been only a wooden pillar with a common basin in it for a font.

Mr. Burland mentions that there was also in the parish church "part of another font of Norman period," which was taken he knows not where. This was probably the one which I found in possession of Mr. Wood, butcher, then churchwarden of the parish church, who gave it to me and sent it up to the Hall garden, where it now lies, being unfit for use as a font on account of its broken state.

When the church was taken down several old vaults in the interior were removed, but nothing of any great antiquity was found there. The oldest monument was a heavy block of stone with a large cross carved on it which stood upright, cramped to the south wall of the church near to the door of the Bradshaigh chapel. This was placed flat upon the ground near to the same place after the restoration. There was also found under the tower, far below the surface of the ground, an altar tomb of an ecclesiastic in full robes, which was placed on the base of the tower window in the inside.¹

There was very little of the old stained glass left in the church ; nothing, in fact, but a few scattered remnants, which have since disappeared : but in or about 1590 there was a considerable quantity of painted glass, the heraldic portion of which is thus described by Randal Holmes, the Chester Herald :²

At Wygan in the glasse wyndowes of the Church.

- [1] 1. *ar. 2 bendlets sable, his crest a white hynd pass^t, for Bradshawe.*
- [2] 2. *ar. 3 chevrons gu. [Banaster] : impaled with ar. an egle displ. 2 heads v^t beake & leggs or.*
- [3] 3. *B. [azure] a lion rapt Er[mine] Crowned or, Gerrard.*
- [4] —. *Quarterlie a mayndens head coped at shouldrs en la 2^{qr} [within the 2nd and 3rd quarters] ar. a fleur de lys B [azure] idm fenestr [in the same window].*

¹ Mr. Burland's notes.

² Randal Holmes's MSS., Harl. 2129, fol. 108, *apud Brit. Museum.*

- [5] 4. *ar.* [2 swords in saltire points downwards sable, hilts, guards, and pomels or] und^r this cote is written Boston and Halghton.
- [6] 5. In the greate wyndowe, *Sa.* 2 keys [in saltire, points downwards] *ar.*, impaled withe *Sa.* 3 Dishes *ar.* q̄rtered wth *ar.* a cross [saltire] *sa.* q̄rlie.
- [7] 6. *ar.* 2 bendlets *sa.* [Bradshawe].
- [8] 7. *ar.* 2 bendlets *gu.* betw. [the] bendlets 3 torteux, for Innce.
- [9] 8. *ar.* on a bend *sa.* 3 garbs or q̄rtered wth [2nd] *ar.* a cross patonce *sa.* 3^d *sa.* 3 [here is a drawing of] a mullet of 5 points issuant from the horns of a crescent *ar.* 4th *ar.* a fesse *g.*, for Hesketh.
1 for Hesketh, 2 for Banester, third for [blank], fourth for Kente de Kendale.
- [10] 9. *B* [azure] a cross molyn or sans p̄c' [not pierced], for Mollyneux.
- [11] 10. *idm.* [the same shield as the last].
- [12] 11. Leland *ar.* on fesse *sa.* a lion passant *ar.*, impaled wth *gu.* 3 chevrons *ar.*
- [13] 12. *ar.* 2 bendlets *sa.* [Bradshawe].
- [14] 13. *idm.* with a crest a whyte harte pass^t, hornes or, Bradshawe.
- [15] 14. *ar.* between 2 bendlets *g.* 3 torteux, Innce.

This *MS.* has been transcribed by Mr. J. Paul Rylands,¹ who gives the following notes in explanation of the arms:—"Of the fifteen shields here described, four (numbers 1, 7, 13, and 14) commemorate the family of Bradshawe, or Bradshaigh as the name was frequently written, of Haigh Hall. The pedigree entered in 1567 gives the crest as *On a mount vert, a buck at gaze, proper, under a vine vert*, and the arms are differenced by a crescent.

2. Although the eagle has two heads, and although the Clare arms (*argent, 3 chevrons gules*) are used, it seems probable that

¹ Armorial Bearings in the Churches of Prescott, Wigan, and Liverpool in the year 1590, by J. Paul Rylands, Esq., Liverpool, 1881.

this shield is meant to represent the marriage of Joane of Acre, daughter of Edward I., and widow of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Hertford and Gloucester, with Ralph de Monthermer, who during the lifetime of his wife was summoned to Parliament as Earl of Hertford and Gloucester, and after her death, which took place in 1307, as Baron Monthermer (Burke's *Extinct Peerage*). Unless the impalement is accounted for in this way, this pane of glass is difficult of identification.

3. Gerard of Ince. A younger son of Gerard of the Bryn, about the reign of Henry IV., married the heiress of the Inces of Ince, whose arms appear in numbers 8 and 15. The Gerards of Ince do not seem to have assumed the Fitzgerald arms, *argent, a saltire gules*, as the parent house of Bryn did. In 1567 William Gerard of Ince entered his pedigree, when the arms were differenced by a crescent, and he had allowed to him for a crest *a lion's jamb erect and erased ermine, holding a hawk's lure, tasselled Or*.

4. This peculiar coat of arms is not identified. The Langtons bore for a *crest* a woman's head couped below the shoulders, and it is possible that this shield is a confused composition intended for some member of the Langton family.

5. These are the arms of the Gillibrands of the Pele, in the township of Astley, in Leigh parish. The meaning of the words 'Boston and Halghton' is not clear. Another branch of the Gillibrands had been 'of Chorley Hall in co. Lanc.' for at least four generations when they entered a pedigree at the Visitation of 1613.

6. Henry Standish, Bishop of St. Asaph. The arms of the See of St. Asaph impaling Standish quartered with Standish ancient; the last coat should have a border engrailed sable. He was appointed Bishop of St. Asaph by Papal Bull, dated 28th May, 1518, and consecrated at Oxford 11th July following. He died 9th July, 1535, and was buried in the Minories, London. (Le Neve's *Fasti*, Eccl. Angl.)

8 and 15. The arms of the family of Ince of Ince, in Wigan

parish, frequently quartered by the Gerards of Ince. A branch of the Inces, then represented by John Ince of Ince, entered a pedigree at the Visitation of Lancashire in 1664. Another branch settled at Spinkhill, in Derbyshire, at an early date, and in 1639 seem to have been represented by John Ince, of Lincoln's Inn.¹

9. The quartered shield of the Heskeths of Rufford. The first quarter, *argent, on a bend sable three garbs or*, is the Hesketh coat, adopted from that of the Fittons of Gawsforth, in Cheshire, *argent, on a bend azure three garbs or*, as Mr. Langton points out, on acquiring Great Harwood by marriage with an heiress of an offshoot of the Fitton family.² A splendid shield of twenty-eight quarterings is engraved in Dr. Howard's *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, quarterly series, vol. ii. page 149, and is preceded by a very full pedigree of the Heskeths of Rufford; in the same volume will be found pedigrees of the other branches of the Hesketh family. The Banastre quarter was brought in by the marriage of Thomas Hesketh, about the reign of Edward III., with Margaret, daughter and coheiress of Thomas Banastre, who, according to the old pedigree of the Heskeths, was 'Baron of Newton and Lord of Walton, [and] sonne to y^e Baron y^t was Knight of the Garter te'pe R. 2.' Nicholas Hesketh, son of Thomas above named, who was living in 1415, married a Minshull heiress, and so brought in that quarter. The quarter called 'Kente de Kendall' probably came in with Fitton.

10 and 11. The arms of Molyneux of Hawkley Hall, in Wigan parish, a family descended from 'Roger Molyneux of Raynehull, co. Lancaster, ar. [who] lyved in the tyme of K. Edward the first, as appereth by aunicyent evydences,' and who begins the pedigree entered by Thomas Molyneux of Hawkley in 1567. The family entered again at the Visitation of 1664-5. In War-rington churchyard there still remains a tomb of this family, with a boldly-carved coat of arms, crest, helm, and mantling. The

¹ See a pedigree in Mr. Jewitt's *Reliquary*, vol. vii. p. 183.

² Visitation of Lancashire, 1533, p. 68 (Chetham Society, vol. xcviij).

arms display the pierced cross moline with a mullet in dexter chief, and the crest is the usual plume of peacock's feathers on a cap of maintenance. The inscription, which is probably worth preserving here, is as follows :—

Here Lyeth the Body of
William Molyneux of
Hawkeley Gentleman
who Departed this Life
The 17 of Feb. 1697.
Thomas Molyneux Son
of William Molyneux
of Hawkeley Departed this
Life the 28 of October
1682.

Rich^d Molineux of Hawkley
Gent. Died July 4th 1748 Aged
47. Elizabeth his wife Died June
11th 1767 Aged 42.
Also Mary their Daughter
Died 28th Nov^r 1775 Aged 42. ¹

12. 'Leland.' This impaled coat most probably records the marriage of Sir William Leyland of Morleys, in the parish of Leigh, with Anne, daughter and heiress of Alan Singleton of Wightgill, co. York, The lion on the Leyland *fesse* is almost invariably placed between *two escallop shells*, and there should be *in chief nine ears of barley gules*, 3, 3 and 3, each placed *two in saltire and one in pale*, banded with a string or. The family entered at the Visitations of 1533 and 1567 ; before the latter year Anne, granddaughter of Sir William, and daughter and sole heiress of Thomas Leyland of Morleys, had become the wife of Edward Tyldesley, second son of Thurstan Tyldesley of Wardley."

¹ There is another monumental inscription to a Molyneux in Wigan church, which will be mentioned in its place.

There were formerly three private chapels attached to the parish church. Besides the Gerard chapel there were a Legh chapel and a Bradshaigh chapel. That belonging to the Leghs of Lyme, as lords of the manor of Northleghe or Norley, in the parish of Wigan, stood where the organ now is, north of the chancel. This chapel was given up to the rector and churchwardens by Richard Legh of Lyme, Esq., in 1682, for a vestry, and was used as such till the time of the late restoration, when the present vestry was built.

The Bradshaigh chapel, now the property of the Earl of Crawford as representing that family, has a history of its own from a very early date. The original chantry attached to this church, and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, was founded by dame Mabel, widow of Sir William Bradshaigh, knight, with the assent of Roger, bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Henry Earl of Lancaster, seneschal of England, and John (or Ivo) de Langton, clerk, rector of Wigan. It was endowed in the first instance with a messuage in Wigan at that time in the tenure of Henry Banastre, and certain premises in Haghe [Haigh]. The attesting witnesses to the deed were Sir Thomas de Latham, Sir Robert de Langeton, Sir Richard de Hoghton, Sir William de Lee, knights, Sir Henry le Walsch, parson of the church of Standish, Sir John de Langeton, parson of the church of Wigan, Gilbert de Haydock, William de Worchler, William de Kureton, and others. Dated at Haghe on Sunday the morrow of St. James the Apostle (July 26) *anno domini* mill^o ccc^{mo} xxx^o octavo, 12 Edw. III.,¹ being an *inspeximus*. On the 2nd nones Sept., 1338, John de Sutton, Presbyter, was canonically instituted by Roger, Bishop of Lichfield, to the chantry at the altar of St. Mary the Virgin in the parish church of Wigan, founded by Dame Mabella, formerly the wife of Sir William Bradshaigh, knight, and now by her presented to the same as a perpetual chaplain, according to the form and ordination of the said chantry.² On 16th October, 1488, Sir William Holden, presbyter,

¹ Lichfield Dioc. Register.

² *Ibid.*

was admitted to the same perpetual chantry, on the presentation of James Bradshaw, Esq., founder of the said chantry, vacant by the death of Richard Fletcher, the last incumbent.¹

Notwithstanding the last statement, the founder was clearly Mabel, daughter and heiress of Hugh le Norreys, Lord of Haigh and Blackrod, and relict of Sir William Bradshaigh, knight of the shire for Lancaster in 6, 8, and 19 Ed. II. and 2, 4, and 5 Edw. III. This lady, famous for her wealth, misfortunes, and piety, exercised her rights as Lady of the Manor of Haigh in 11 Edw. III. (1337), and also founded another chantry at Blackrod in the following year.² Those acquainted with Roby's *Traditions of Lancashire* will be familiar with the romantic story of her second marriage during her husband's long absence from home, in the wars. Roby gives the following extract from the genealogical roll of the Bradshaighs (which was drawn up in 1647, and is now in the possession of the Earl of Crawford), as the principal source from whence his tale originated:—"Sir William Bradshaighe, 2nd son of Sir John" [Bradshaighe of Bradshaighe], "was a great traveller and a souldger, and married to Mabell, daughter and sole heire of Hugh Norris de Haghe and Blackrode," &c. "Of this Mabel is a story, by tradition of undoubted veritie, that in Sir William Bradshaghe [his] absence (being ten years away in the holy wars) she married a Welsh knight. Sir William, returning from the wars, came in a Palmer's habitt amongst the poor to Haghe, who, when she saw, and congetringe that he favoured her former husband, wept, for which the knight chastised her, at which Sir William went and made him selfe knowne to his tennants, in which space the knight fled; but neare to Newton Parke Sir William overtooke him and slue him. The said Dame Mabell was enjoyned by her confessor to doe Pennances by going onest every week barefout and bare legg'd to a crosse ner Wigan from the haghe whilest

¹ Lichfield Dioc. Register.

² Raines's *Lancashire Chantries*, Chetham Society, lix. p. 66.

she lived, and is called Mabb X to this day ;¹ and ther monument lies in Wygan church." A sketch of this monument is given in the parchment roll preserved at Haigh. Sir Walter Scott likewise gives the legend in the preface to his romance of *The Betrothed*, where he tells us that the whole history was, within the memory of man, portrayed upon a glass window in Haigh Hall, where unfortunately it has not been preserved. Sir William was outlawed during the space of a year and a day for this offence ; but he and his lady, it is said, lived happily together ever afterwards. Roby, who writes in 1829, says that "their effigies on the tomb now exist but as rude and unshapely masses ; time and whitewash, the two great destroyers of our monumental relics, having almost obliterated their form—the one by diminishing, the other by adding to their substance." Since Roby's time the monument has been restored—or, more correctly speaking, one of the old mutilated figures has been re-chiselled and repaired, and the remains of the other have been encased within an altar tomb in the Bradshaigh chapel, on which a new figure of the knight has been placed by the side of his lady, and an illustration of the legend carved in bas-relief upon the sides thereof. That Sir William was in the *holy* wars must, as Mr. Roby says, be a corruption of the story, seeing that he was born about the year 1280, ten years after the last of the crusades. Sir Walter Scott gets over the difficulty by omitting the word "holy," which occurs, however, in the original. If he was engaged in any wars at all, it is more likely that he was taken prisoner in the Scottish wars.

There is, however, another version of the story given by one of the Bradshaighs of Haigh, and preserved in the Harleian

¹ The old cross, still known as Mab's Cross, of which only the lower portion now remains, is yet standing at the top of Standishgate, where Wigan lane or the road to Standish joins it, and where the northern or Standish gate of the town formerly stood. This old cross probably gives a name to the family of Crosse of Crosse Hall, Liverpool, and Shaw Hill, near Chorley, who were possessed of a messuage and lands near this spot, held under the rectors of Wigan from the time of Edward I. or earlier, as appears from their family evidences.

MSS., 1563,¹ which, as it differs in many particulars from the other, and contains, besides, a curious account of the way in which Mabel, the heiress, was wooed and won, it may be well to transcribe literally :—"Item—The aforesaid Alan Norres was son and heire mascle of Gilbert Norres, Esqr., who was lord of the manor of Haw, in Wygan parishe, the manor of Blackroade in Bolton parishe, and Westeley in Leigh parishe. These three manors went away to the heires generall with one Mabel Norres, for I shall shewe you the maner how it came to Dame Mabell Bradshawe, who was Norres daughter and heyre generall, which the kyng gave hym, and thereupon my said auncestor came downe unto Howe, inqyred where any woman was that did hete, or was named, Norres: and, yt then being a very dere yeare, fownde the aforesaid Mabell in a kyll, baking the ote-cakes, whom he fownd—but in a poore estate, not knowyng herselfe to have any clayme or right to any parte of the three forsaid manors. Whom my forsaid auncestor saluted, and she, abashed of sutch a syght and salutacyon of so fyne a man, and had not seen the lyke; and sayd, 'Mayd, wilt thou marye me? and I shall make thee ladye of the manor of Howe, Blackrode, and Westeley.' But when she saw hym and hard him, knowyng not her owne ryghte, was abashed, and knewe not what to answere, sayd, 'I am a poor mayde, ye mock me.' But he bouldened her, and sayd, 'Grawnt me maryage, and I will doe that I have said.' Which was agreyed upon gladlye on her part, and his bothe; and thereon entered into the londes, possessed them, and had them, and thereupon maryed, and lyved togeather many yeares without yssue, and so she dyed.

And in tyme conscience pricked my said auncestor, Bradshawe, and by consent and sufferance of Mabell, his wyff, he vowed his journey to Rome, Jerusalem, and other holye places, ther to see and vysett the holye places ther; made him and iiij of his men palmers' weedes, and toke their journey, and weare

¹ See Burke's Visitation of the Seats and Arms of the Noblemen and Gentlemen of Great Britain, vol. ii. p. 9.

about vij yeares fourth, in which tyme all his iiij men dyed. And thereupon arose a brute and fame that her husband, Bradshawe, my auncestor, was dead, and all his men. This sprong abroad, and teken to be true, was hard by one Sir Henry Teuther, knight, who begged Mabell Bradshawe of the kyng, and maryed, and lyved with her at How untill that vij yeares past and gone. And now heare ye. My said auncestor, Bradshawe, came home, and unknowne to alle men, and to his tenantes, came to one whom he bothe loved and trusted, on the Saturday at night, and required lodging for the profytt's sake; and grawnted, taryed all night unknownen; for growen with heyre, and sore withered that none thought on hym; yet talked of Rome, and how long sythe the palmer came thence; and he shewed them. And then he demaunded of his tenantes whose was the Hall at Howe, as if he had been a stranger indeed. His tenant declared unto hym all the circumstances of his master's going to Rome and iiij others with hym; and how they weare all dead; and how his wyff was maryed againe to one Sir Henry Teuther; and mutch praysed their ould master, Bradshawe that went to Rome; what a good master they had of hym, and how well they loved hym, with many circumstances. And thus when tyme served they went to bedd. But he tould them afore that he saw theire Mr. Bradshawe, and that he was not ded. And when morowe came, he went out, and afore dinner tyme went to the Hawll, and ther requyred his dynner for the prophet's sake, which he had; and so sett at a syde board in the Hawll. Dame Mabell remembered her husband, Bradshawe, then began to behould the palmer; and more she looked on hym, the more like she thought hym to her first husband, Bradshawe, whom she knewe no other way with hym but to bee ded. Yet still she thought that he resembled her husband Bradshawe more and more, and at length burst fourthe, and wept. Sir Henry Teuther, her husband, demaunded of her why shee weep'd. And she aunswered and sayd, 'Nothing.' But there was no excuse but shee must tell hym; and so dyd,

that the palmer resembled her husband, Bradshawe. Who aunswered and sayd, 'What! dost thou love hym better than mee?' and therewith he departed the bourd with a bound. The palmer saw all the matter, and kept hym still. With that, when dynner was done, he tooke his leave, and departed. He had hard that the said Sir Henry roade on the morowe to London, and men with hym, went straight to his tenant's house, where he the night before had lodged, and begun further with his tenaunt to talke; and toulde hym that his master, Bradshawe, was alyve; and then asked his tenaunt what prevey token, or marke, that he knewe on his master Bradshawe bye. And his tenaunt tould him. And hee said, 'I am hee,' and leyt hys tenaunt see this marke on hys rybb that he spoke of, and shewed hym other secretts betwixt them, so that the tenaunt was well assured that yt was his good master, Bradshawe. Then hys master, Bradshawe, tould hym all that he saw hys wyff for his sake that day suffered, sayd her strokes should be well quytt; and bade hym make other ij of his most trusty tenaunts prevy what was done, and he so tooke them with hym; and every man on horsebake went on the morowe to Newton Parke syde afore Sir Henry Teuther came, and ther slewe Sir Henry Teuther, and made them straight to London, and came to the kyng, and shewed hym all the circumstances, and had hys pardon, and came home and lyved with Dame Mabell his wyff during their lyves together."

The account is concluded by the mention of dame Mabell's penance as before given. However the two stories may differ in details, they correspond so exactly in substance that we may be fairly sure that the legend is true. Sir William, with his wife's consent, settled the manor of Haigh upon his brother, failing the issue of his own body, and thus it continued with the family of Bradshaigh, from whom the present Earl of Crawford is descended. Part of the old Haigh Hall, which was pulled down in the time of James Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, grandfather of the present peer, bore the name of "Mab's Gallery," in remembrance of Mabel Norris, whose ghost was said to haunt it.

It was flanked by an ancient chapel and a dark confession-room, the latter intervening between the chapel and kitchen.¹

To return to the chantry of St. Mary in Wigan church. Thomas Baron was the incumbent in 1534-5, as appears from the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* compiled in that year, where its value is thus given: "The chantry at Wygan aforesaid, founded by the ancestors of Sir Roger Bradshawe, knight, in the hands of Thomas Baron, chaplain, is worth in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there £3 6s. 4d., from which is to be deducted a rent payable to the rector of Wygan arising out of the said lands and tenements of 1s. yearly, leaving clear £3 5s. 4d." In the same year 1535 the subsidy commissioners for the Deanery of Warrington assessed at Wigan the "*Cantoria ex fundatione Mri Rogeri bradshae, milit.*" for tenths at 6s. 3¾d., and for the subsidy 6s. 11d. In the margin is added "*Caret Cantar,*"² from which it may be inferred that it was vacated by Thomas Baron in that same year. An inventory taken a few years later, before the final suppression of the chantries and the absorption of their revenues into the King's hands, the commission for which was dated 13 Feb. 37 Hen. VIII. (1546), gives a fuller and slightly different account: "The chantrie at the Alter of o^r lady w^hin the p^oche of Wigan: Hugh Cokeson, priest, incumbent the^r of the founda^on of thancecessors of Rauf Bradshawe³ to celebrate the^r for the soulez of the founders and to singe masse w^h note two times in the weke. The sa^m [chantrie] is at the alter of o^r lady w^hin the said church and the sa^m priest at this day is remanyng the^r and doth celebrate the^r accordinglie." As to the plate there is "none, for he doth celebrate w^h the chales and ornaments of the sa^m church." As to the endowment, tenants, and rental, "Raufe Bradshawe holdyth one tenement with thappurtenances lienge in haye in

¹ Burke's Visitation of Seats and Arms of Noblemen, &c., vol. ii. p. 10.

² *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, vol. v. p. 220.

³ Ralph, son of James Bradshaigh, Esq. (who died 20 Henry VII.) was living at the time of this royal inquisition, and dying without issue in 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary, was succeeded by his next brother, William Bradshaigh, Esq., ancestor of the present lord of Haigh (Chetham Society, vol. lix. p. 67, note).

the countie of Lancaster, renting yerlie.....xliijs^s iiij^d; James Anderton holdyth one tenement lieng in Wigan vjs viij^d, William Glover one burgage theſe iijs^s, Peter Lethez one burgage iijs^s iiij^d, Willm Dolphyn one burgage iijs^s, William Turner one burgage iijs^s viij^d, Galfride Turner one burgage xvj^d, and Mathewe Markelande one burgage vi^d; in all by yere.....xxiijs^s vi^d. Sum totall of the rentall.....lxvjs^s x^d; wherof is paid to the pson for cheif rent yerlie xij^d; and so remanyth.....lxvs^s x^d.”¹ There had probably been another chantry priest between Baron and Cokeson, for the latter, as incumbent of the said chantry, only compounded for his first fruits on 10th May, 36 Hen. VIII.² (1544). The chantry was suppressed during his incumbency and its revenues given over to the King, but a pension was reserved to the priest for the term of his life; and in 1553 we find Hugh Cokesonne, priest of the Virgin Mary Chantry, Wigan, receiving a pension of £3 os. 3d., he being then fifty-one years of age.³

The chapel seems to have been neglected after the suppression of the chantries, and was in a ruinous condition in 1620 when bishop Bridgeman rebuilt the chancel. It was restored, however, as we have seen, in 1719, by Sir Roger Bradshaigh, Bart., who obtained a faculty for that purpose. The vault under the chapel, which was used as a family burial place, was demolished in 1849, when the present *columbarium* was made and the old leaden coffins repaired or renewed, but there were none more than 150 years old.

The eastern portion of the chapel is occupied by the recumbent figures of Sir William Bradshaigh and Mabel his wife, already described. Against the south wall is a monument to Sir Roger Bradshaigh, knight and baronet, bearing the following inscription :—

¹ *Lancashire Chantries*, pp. 66, 67 (Chetham Society, vol. lix).

² *Lancashire and Cheshire Records*, part 2, p. 408, being vol. 8 of Lancashire and Cheshire Record Society.

³ Chetham Society, vol. lix. p. 66, note.

“ *Hic jacet Dominus Rogerus Bradshaigh
 Eques et Barronettus, Jacobi Bradshaigh de
 Haigh in Comitatu Lancastriæ Armigeri,
 Annæq. filiæ Gulielmi Norris de Speak in
 Eodem Agro Militis Balnei, filius et Hæres
 Unicus, in Senatu (qui Carolum 2^{dum} ad Sceptrum
 et Solium restauravit) Miles Comitatus Publico
 Suffragio delegatus, Iterum una voce in Conventu
 proximo in sequenti in eodem statu perstitit tam
 pro Rege quam pro Republica columen firmum
 et inconcussum, unaq. cum his Patriæ Præfecturis
 in eodem Comitatu Audiendi et terminandi
 Constitutus erat Justiciarius et Sublegatus
 Mandatum a Rege habitum exercuit Atq. in
 ejus Exercitu Lancastriensi Equitavit Dux
 Animosus et intrepidus Posteaq. Vicecomes
 hujusce Palatinatus generose et fideliter Superemi
 nuit Tandem cum A Principe et Patria optime
 meritis esset A Laboribus Publicis et privatis
 56^{to} Ætatis suæ Ano conquievit Martii 31^{mo} Annoq.
 Domini 1684*

*In cujus Memoriam Elizabetha (Gulielmi Pening-
 ton de Muncaster in Comitatu Cumbricæ Armigeri
 filia) viri hic contumulati Superstes et Vidua
 Lugubris hoc monumentum constituit.”*

On the east wall are two more family monuments in white marble, of Italian design, one on either side of the window ; that on the south side of the window bears the following inscription :—

Maria Margaret Frances
 daughter of
 John Lord Muncaster
 heir of line of
 the ancient and loyal house of Pennington

and wife of
James Earl of Crawford and Balcarres
Born April 1783
died 8th Nov. 1850
and lies buried
in this chapel.

Her children arise and call her blessed

Her husband also and he praiseth her

Above is a shield of arms bearing *or, five fusils in fesse azure.*

That on the north side is divided in the middle, bearing an inscription as follows :—

| | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Alexander | Elizabeth |
| W ^m Earl of Balcarres, | Bradshaigh |
| Lord Lindsay and Balneill | daughter of |
| born 18th Jan. 1750 ; | Charles Dalrymple Esq ^r of |
| General in the army, | Northberwick ; |
| and Governor of Jersey and Jamaica | sole heiress and representative |
| during the revolutionary war ; | of the knightly family of |
| succeeded | Bradshaigh |
| as xxiiij th Earl of Crawford | of Haigh Hall |
| in 1808 ; | in this county. |
| died 25 th March 1825, | and wife of |
| and lies buried | Alex. Earl of Crawford and Balcarres |
| in this chapel. | died 10 th Aug. 1816. |
| | and lies buried |
| | in this chapel. |

“ Except the Lord build the house
they labour in vain that build it.”

“ Our help standeth in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.”

Over the monument are three shields of arms, viz.: on the dexter side, *gules, a fesse chequy, argent and azure*, for Lindsay ; on the sinister side, *argent, two bendlets between two martlets sable* (the Bradshaigh coat), for Dalrymple as the heiress of Bradshaigh ; and above them in the centre, quarterly, 1st and

4th Lindsay as before, 2nd and 3rd *or, a lion rampant gules debruised of a bend, sable* (for Abernethy).

A beautiful painted glass window has lately been put up at the east end of the chapel by Lady Mabel Marian Lindsay and Lady Jane Evelyn Lindsay in memory of their father, Alexander William, late Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, who was a munificent supporter of the church in this parish. The designs were drawn by Lady Jane E. Lindsay,^t and the work executed by Messrs. Heaton, Butler, and Bayne. The principal figures, whose lives are illustrated in the carefully drawn and artistic designs in the small vignettes below, were chosen as representing the highest types of those qualities which were most marked in the character of the deceased: ST. PAUL, for the bold setting forth of truth against error, which Lord Crawford ever had before him in his literary works; ST. GEORGE, as a good and noble Christian gentleman fighting against evil and making a stand for goodness and purity and truth; ST. MARTIN, as a type of charity; and ST. OSWALD, as representing one of the noblest heroes of the Saxon race, from which the late Earl claimed his descent on his mother's side. There are eight shields of arms in the lower part of the window: 1. *argent, two bendlets between two martlets, sable* (with the bloody hand), for Bradshaigh of Haigh, baronets. 2. *gules, seven lozenges vair, three, two, and one; on a canton or a mullet pierced argent* (with a bloody hand), for Guise of Ellmore, baronets—*i.e.*, for Rachel, daughter of Sir John Guise, bart., and wife of Sir Roger Bradshaigh. 3. Quarterly 1st and 4th, *a fesse chequy argent and azure*; 2nd and 3rd, *or, a lion rampant gules debruised of a ribbon in bend sable*; all within a *bordure azure semée of stars or*, for Alexander Earl of Balcarres. 4. *or, on a saltier azure, between a crescent in chief gules, and two water bougets in the flanks sable, nine lozenges of the field*, for Elizabeth Dalrymple, great-granddaughter of Bradshaigh and heiress of Haigh. 5. Same as 3, without the *bordure*, for James 24th Earl of Crawford and 7th Earl of Balcarres. 6. *or, five fusils in fesse azure*, for Maria Frances Pennington, daughter and

heiress of Lord Muncaster. 7. The same as 5, for the late Earl of Crawford. 8. The same as 3, for the Countess Dowager of Crawford. The idea conveyed by these shields of arms is the Bradshaigh-Lindsay descent, shewing how the persons interred in the vault beneath the chapel come to lie together there as possessors of the property and chapel.

In the Gerard chapel there are two mural monuments; the one on the north wall bears the following inscription:—

SACRED to the MEMORY
of the GERARDS of INCE within MACKERFIELD who for several centuries were LORDS of that MANOR and also of ASPULL in this COUNTY and whose mortal remains are deposited underneath this Chancel belonging to the family. THOMAS GERARD ESQUIRE the last Heir in a direct line dying without male issue soon after the Restoration of Charles the Second that property became vested in his kinsman COLONEL RICHARD GERARD who was a grandson of the first SIR THOMAS GERARD Baronet of Bryn, and who during the civil wars raised a Body of Foot for the immediate guard of the Queen and eminently distinguishing himself in the Royal Cause was severely wounded at the siege of Burton upon Trent which Town being garrisoned by the Parliamentary Forces he invested and together with Sir Thomas Tyldesley carried by Storm. Immediately after the Restoration in acknowledgment of his services he was appointed Cup bearer in ordinary waiting on her Majesty the Queen Dowager. This Branch of the family became extinct in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and five on the demise of MARY WALMESLEY relict of JOHN WALMESLEY Esquire and ELIZABETH GERARD Spinster Sisters and Coheiresses of WILLIAM GERARD Esquire.

This Tablet was placed here by CHARLES WALMESLEY Esquire of WESTWOOD in INCE aforesaid Grandson of the above named MARY WALMESLEY 1816.

R.I.P.

The other monument on the west wall of the chapel bears the following inscription :—

MEMORIAE
CAROLI WALMESLEY DE WESTWOOD ARMIGERI QUI
ANN. NATUS LII PIE DECESSIT
III KAL. JUL. AN. MDCCCXXXIII
ITEM MEMORIAE CAROLI FIL. NATU MAXIMI QUI
AN. AET. XXV AGENS PRAEREPTUS EST
XI KAL. JUN. AN. MDCCCXXX
MARITO ET PATRI AMANTISSIMO FILIO AC FRATRI OPTIMO
CONJUNX ELIZABETHA ET GULIELMUS FILIUS
FLENTES POSUERE PIETATIS CAUSA
R.I.P.

The two next mentioned monuments are now in the North Chancel aisle (formerly the Legh chapel), on the wall separating it from the vestry.

To the Pious Memory
of RICHARD WELLES late of Wigan, gent.
and ELLEN his beloved Wife
He y^e Son of FR. WELLES of Sandbach in Cheshire, gent.
She y^e Daughter of ROBT LEATHERBARROW Alderman
of Wigan
They were both shining examples
of Piety Charity and Hospitality
Nor were they less remarkable for Conjugal Affection
and mutual compliances
His Will was hers ; and her Will was His
Thus they joined in giving Organs and Ornam^{ts} to this Church
Besides thirteen Hundred Pounds
To other Publick Pious Uses
She died Sept. 1707
He died Mar. 1708
This Monument of Her Sincere Love and Respect
was given by Mrs. BOWYER Sister to Mrs. WELLES

Who gave Her House in Millgate
To the Head Schoolmaster of Wigan
& was interr'd here

Sept. 1717.

Above this monument is a shield of arms bearing *a lion rampant with two tails*.

By the side of the above is a monument to bishop George Hall, rector of Wigan, which has been already described. [†]

Passing down the church, on the wall of the north aisle, between the tower and the arch of the Gerard chapel, are two small brasses, the uppermost of which bears the following inscription :—

ANHELANTEM ET CÆLESTIA
SITIENTEM ANIMAM EFFLAVIT INTE
MERATA SUSANNA SAMUELIS
SHAW CONJUX OBSEQUENTISSIMA
VIRTUTIS NORMA
CHARITATIS EXEMPLAR
ASSIDUA CHRISTI PEDISSEQUA
OCT : XIX : M : DC : LXXXV.
Multis illa bonis flebilis occidit.

The brass beneath it has the following inscription :—

In affectionate memory of
LUCY BEESTON
For more than thirty-two years
the faithful servant of
The Rev^d Canon the Hon^{ble} G. T. O. Bridgeman
Rector of Wigan
Born 7th March 1815, Died 18th July 1883.

On the same wall is a marble monument :

[†] See p. 495.

In memory of
 Thomas Woodcock of Newborough
 Upwards of LVIII years a banker in Wigan
 his widow and children have erected
 this monument
 He was a man of strict integrity,
 firm yet meek, zealous yet temperate
 The poor were always with him,
 He loved to do them good ;
 The stream of his benevolence was silent,
 for it was deep ;
 He was humble
 for he counted himself an unprofitable servant ;
 His old age was happy,
 and his end was peace,
 for his end was stayed upon the sole merits
 and the perfect atonement
 of his blessed Lord and Saviour.
 He died in the LXXXII year of his age
 November vi MDCCCL
 Elizabeth LI years his wife
 died xxvj June MDCCCLVII
 aged LXXXII.

On the same north wall, westward of the Gerard chapel, is a small monument of white marble :

In memory
 of
 MAXWELL F. REILLY
 Surgeon
 to the Wigan Union
 who died on the 17th of Feby
 1871
 in his 26th year
 of fever caught in the faithful

discharge of his duties
and was interred in
Mount Jerome Cemetery
Dublin.

Although only resident in Wigan
for a brief period, he had gained
the affections of many.

This tablet is erected by some
of those to whom he had
endeared himself.

On the same wall, nearer the north door of the church, is
another small monument in white marble with the following
inscription :—

This Tablet was erected by friends
In Memory of
THOMAS BYROM
of Wigan, J.P.
who died 8th October 1882
Aged 82 years.

On the same wall, west of the north door, is a monument,
which has evidently been moved from its former position, bearing
the following inscription :—

Near this Pillar is interred
the Remains of
WILLIAM MAYOR
of
Wigan
who departed this life in May 1772
Aged 27 years
and his widow
ALICE MAYOR
who died May 14th 1814
in the 69th year of her age

Also their son
THOMAS MAYOR
of Ardwick
who departed this life Dec^r 1st 1822
Aged 52 years

On the west wall of the north aisle is a mural monument :—

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
JAMES BROWN OF WIGAN GENTLEMAN
WHO DIED AT SOUTHPORT APRIL 18TH 1848
AGED 85 YEARS
IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS MUNIFICENT BENEFACTIONS
TO THE WIGAN DISPENSARY
THE WIGAN NATIONAL AND BLUE COAT SCHOOL
THE WIGAN PARISH CHURCH
THE CHURCHES OF S^T GEORGE AND S^T CATHERINE
AND ALSO FOR CLOTHING POOR PEOPLE OF WIGAN
HIS TRUSTEES HAVE ERECTED THIS MONUMENT.

On a marble slab on the west wall of the south aisle :

Ralph Thicknesse & Thomas Woodcock
The one twenty, the other nineteen years of age
By the upsetting of a boat on Windermere
xij September MDCCCLIII.

On another slab on the wall of the south aisle, west of the principal door of the church :

Sacred
To the memory of
Ralph Anthony Thicknesse
Some years a member for this town
who died at Harrowgate August 22, 1854.
aged 54
In the midst of a life of extended usefulness,

Earnestly desiring to promote the love of God
and the good of his fellow creatures

He was suddenly cut off

The last of his name and race having followed

His only son to an untimely grave

But a few months before

He died in a humble but clear and firm hope

Through the merits of his Saviour
of a blessed immortality.

The sorrowing wife and daughter, by faith in the
same Jesus, trust one day to rejoin those

so dearly loved so early lost, yet
not lost but gone before.

On another, east of the door :

Sacred to the memory of
and whose mortal remains

Lie interred under these pews

Ellen Kenyon widow of

George Kenyon of Peel Esquire
and daughter of William Curghey
of Swinley Esquire

Both in the county of Lancaster
Died 18 June 1789 aged 59 years

And of Margaret Curghey
Daughter of the said William Curghey
Died 28 May 1800

aged 64 years

also of Peregrina Kenyon

Daughter of the said

George Kenyon

Died 26 June 1785
aged 28 years.

On another, east of the above :

Juxta hic Reconditur
 Gulielmus Gulielmi Bankes ¹
 de Winstanley Armig.
 non degener Filius.
 vixit Annos XXXI
 Omnium Quibus notus
 Deliciæ Omnium Desiderium
 Flebilis occidit January x^{mo}
 Anno salutis
 MDCLXXXIX
 Affectus moestissimæ uxoris
 Possidet istuc marmor.

Above the inscription is a shield of arms bearing [sable?] *a plain cross or, and a canton . . .* (for Bankes), impaled with *azure two bars argent, a bend componée . . .* (for Legh). Crest, *an eagle [?] statant . . . crowned round the neck or.*

This inscription is described in Rawlinson's *Church Notes*,² written about 1708-10, as being then "on a Northward Pillar near the pulpitt on a marble Tablett with a curtain drawn over it."

Further east :

JOHANNES JOHANNIS BALDWEN Generosi,
 Filius natu minimus,
 Cessit Fato, cœlebs non improbus,
 Hujusq oppidi Aldermannus,
 21^o Junij, A.D. 1726 : Ætat^s 38.
 S.B.R.

¹ William Bankes of Winstanley, Esq. (the younger), married Lettice, daughter of Richard Legh of Lyme, Esq., and died without issue. His widow was married secondly to Thomas Fleetwood, Esq., of Bank. Mr. Bankes was succeeded at Winstanley by his nephew William (son of Thomas Bankes of Wigan), whose sister Anne, wife of Hugh Holme, Esq., of Upholland House, became his eventual heiress and carried on the line. (See Burke's *History of the Commoners*, vol. iv. p. 214.)

² Rawlinson's *MSS. apud Bodleian Lib.* 4206. p. 20.

CHARISSIMI FRATRIS

memoriæ piè consulens

Tho^s Baldwin,

Rector de Liverpool

M deflens P

On a shield of arms at the foot of the monument are : *arg. a St. Andrew's cross sable charged with a crescent or.*

Further east :

Rogerus Downes

de Wardley Armiger filius

Johānis Downes hujus

Comitatus Armigeri

Obijt 27^o Junij

1676

Ætatis suæ 28

The inscription is repeated in English. It is described in Rawlinson's *MSS.* as being "in the South Isle on a marble tablet, supported with 2 black marble pillars, on the top a coat of armour, and on the bottom a Hart sitting;" but these armorial bearings are no longer on the monument, which was evidently curtailed at the time of the church restoration.

Further east, on a white marble slab on the south wall of the south aisle, near to the Bradshaigh chapel :

To the memory of the Hon^{ble} and Rev^d George Bridgeman, M.A.

forty-two years the beloved Rector of this parish,

(who died October 27th 1832

in the 68th year of his age)

and in remembrance

of the kindest and dearest of husbands

this tablet is erected by his widow.

On the opposite wall of this aisle, high up over the pillar between the first and second arches of the south aisle, is a monument :

Sacred
to the memory of
Bryan William Molyneux Esq.
of Hawkley
who was interred near this Pillar
He died July 29th 1805 aged 50
Esteemed and regretted by those
who knew his worth
as a Friend and a man of Integrity.

Over the monument a shield of arms bearing : *azure, a cross molines with a mullet in the first quarter or.*

On the south-west side of the south pillar of the chancel arch, by the Bradshaigh chapel :

Sacred
to
the memory of
WILLIAM PEARSON
who died May 13th
aged 54 years
and was interred at the Wigan Cemetery
May 17th 1863

On the north-west side of the same pillar, a brass with the kneeling figure of a priest, with vestment and stole :

In memory of our beloved priest
ALBERT HARRY HODD
At rest 6th August 1871 Jesu merci.

Before passing away from the monuments inside the church, it should be stated that there is an upright stone let in to the wall of the lower window in the tower which is pronounced by archæologists to be an ancient Roman altar, but where it was found or when it was placed in its present position is unknown to the present writer.

Rawlinson, in his *MSS.*, mentions a singular monumental inscription in the churchyard, which has now disappeared :

In the cæmity on the south side of the church is a tomb about a foot high :

This monument
Sacred to Honesty and the memory
of William Wood
Alderman
Some time Major of this
corporation
gentleman
Orthodox in principle
Steady in allegiance
Trusty in Magistracy
and to his Friend
(maugre little artifices)
Invincibly faithfull
Underneath him lies here interred
his dearest comfort [consort ?]
M^{rs} Susannah Wood
a Pious Pair
united in the same loves
and the same interests
ascertained of
a Blessed resurrection
She died November 30th } 1703
He Decemb^r 27th }

Rawlinson also preserves the following list of the charities, formerly recorded in the church on a board, which was removed at the time of the restoration in 1849-50 :

“ On a tablet of wood fixed to the North Wall of the church [is] a catalogue of the names of the benefactors of the poore and schoole of Wigan :

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| Edmund Mollyneux citizen and mercer of London gave £20 <i>per annum</i> for ever | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| The same Edmund Mollyneux towards the repaire of the Parish Church of Wigan | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| And to the Schoole <i>per annum</i> for ever..... | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| He gave towards the repaire of the chapell of Up- holland | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Hugh Bullock, gent., gave to the poor of Wigan..... | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| And to the Schoole <i>per annum</i> for ever | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Henry Mason clerk gave to the poore of Wigan..... | 130 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. Lawrence Maudsley gave to the poore of Wigan | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Alice Wood gave to the poore of Wigan | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| John Bullock gent. gave to the poore of Wigan <i>per</i> <i>annum</i> for ever | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Garard Markland Alderman gave to the poore of Wigan | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. John Guest gave to the poore of the parish of Wigan <i>per annum</i> | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Matthew Markland Ald. gave to the poor of Wigan | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| James Mollineux Ald. gave to the poore of Wigan... | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| George Lord Bishop of Chester and Gertrude his Lady gave to the poore of Wigan either £20 ... | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. Thomas Markland gave to the poore of Wigan.. | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Roger Laithwaite gave to the poore of Wigan..... | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Roger Dawnes of Wardly Esq ^r añ Doñ 1626 gave to the poore of Wigan..... | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| William Baldwin } churchwardens | | | |
| James Hodgkinson } añ Doñ. 1697." | | | |

On the right hand of the above mentioned catalogue of Benefactors is a wooden tablet containing as follows:—

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|----|
| Robett Sixsmith of the Scoles in Wigan, Dyer, hath given to the poore of the said towne in lands | £ | s. | d. |
| to the yearly value of - | 6 | 0 | 0 |

That this may therefore putt in mind
Some others for to be as kind

John Laythom. Roger Browne.
Alexander Ryard. Willm White. Trustees.

On a cupboard underneath, on the right shutter, this :

Edward Holt of Wigan
gentleman, for encouraging
the poor to frequent the church
did that he might see it settled in
his life time *anno do* : 1700 give the
sum of £150 the growing interest [£150 0 0]
thereof to be employed in providing
a certain number of 2^d loaves
to be given each Lord's day
to such poor old people of this towne
and parish as most constantly attend
the church, and finding the good
effect of his charity, he did *an. do*.
1704 advance a further gift
of £75, the interest of it to bee [£75 0 0]
disposed of every Lord's
day in 2^d loaves to such poore
people as are inhabitants of
the Towne of Wigan in the
Form and manner aforesaid.

On the other cupboard door :

Edmund Mollineux
citizen and mercer
of London gave to
the poore *per annum*
for ever - - - £20 0 0

When the present rector came to Wigan in 1864 there were
only four stained glass windows in the church, namely, 1. The

large window at the east end of the chancel, by Wailes, containing scenes from the life of our Blessed Lord, which was put up in 1847 by the Hon. Edward Kenyon, in memory of his cousins, the two Misses Kenyon of Swinley, Wigan, whose property came to him at their death. 2. The All Saints window at the west end, by Wailes. 3. That at the end of the south aisle near to the font, also by Wailes, put up shortly before the restoration of the church by the Rev. John Lingham, one of the curates at the parish church, and others, containing symbols of the four evangelists, &c., and in the centre a representation of the baptism of our Lord, with the text, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Below is a shield with the arms of Sir Henry J. Gunning (as before given¹) impaling *ermine* a fesse between three fireballs argent² fired proper (for Cartwright). 4. The second window from the Bradshaigh chapel in the south aisle, by Hardman, put up in 1855, by Henry Woodcock, Esq., of Bank House, Wigan, in memory of his first wife, Jane, daughter of Thomas Marriott, Esq., who died 21st November, 1854. Of the other windows, all of which have been put up in the time of the present rector, that nearest to the Bradshaigh chapel in the same aisle, by Hardman, was put up by the parishioners in 1866 in memory of the late rector Sir Henry J. Gunning. The design is symbolical of the pastor's work, the centre light representing the Bishop and Pastor of souls, as the Good Shepherd, and the side lights the two sacraments. Beneath is a kneeling figure of the late rector. The third window from the Bradshaigh chapel, also by Hardman, was put up in memory of John Woodcock, Esq. (eldest son of Thomas Woodcock, Esq.), of Newborough and the Elms, Wigan, who died in 1865, and Alice his wife, who died in 1857, by their children. The subjects represented are scenes in the life of St. John the Evangelist, namely, his call by our Lord while sitting in the boat with his brother St. James mending their nets, with the explanatory words: "They left their father and followed Him." St.

¹ See p. 673.² The fireballs should be *sable*.

John at the sepulchre, "Looking in I saw the linen clothes lying." The Evangelist writing his Gospel, "In the beginning was the Word." The next window, by Morris and Fawkner, after the design of Mr. Browne Jones, was placed there in 1868 in memory of Edward Scott, Esq., of Beech Hill, Wigan, by his widow. The centre light represents the legend of St. Christopher, and in the side lights there are figures of angels. The legend of St. Christopher is an old christian allegory which is thus explained by Martin Luther. "It is" (says he) "no Historie; but the Grecians (as wise, learned, and sensible people) feigned the same; to show how a true Christian should bee, and how it went with him; namely, a very great, tall, and strong man, who carried a little child (Jesus) upon his shoulders, which was heavie, insomuch as he was constrained to bend and bow under him (as the name of Christopher, that beareth Christ, sheweth) through the raging and boisterous sea, the world; where the waves (The Tyrants, the Hereticks, and all the Devils,) beat upon and persecute him, would willingly bereave him of body and life, of honour and wealth; but he holdeth himself on a great tree as upon a staff; that is on God's Word. On the other side of the sea standeth an old man with a lanthorn in which a candle burneth; the same are the prophets. Afterwards hee lifteth himself up, and so arriveth safely on the shore, where hee is secure; that is, into everlasting life. But at his side hee hath a sash (scrip?) wherein is fish and bread; to show that God here on earth will also nourish and take care for the bodies of His Christians in such persecutions, crosses and mishaps, which they must endure, and will not suffer them to die of hunger, as the world willingly would have." The next window, the fifth from the Bradshaigh chapel, was put up by Egerton Leigh Wright, Esq., in memory of Beatrice Jane, his wife, who died at Hindley Hall, 27th June, 1867, aged 23. It is by Lavers, Barraud and Westlake, and represents the Ascension of our Lord. The last window in the south wall of the south aisle, within the rails of the baptistery, also by Lavers and Barraud, was put up in 1866 by the Rev.

F. H. Thicknesse, vicar of Deane (now Bishop of Leicester), in remembrance of Ralph Thicknesse, Esq., M.P., of Beech Hill, Wigan, and other members of his family who are interred in the churchyard. The window consists of four lights, descriptive of eight occasions on which angels appeared as "ministering spirits." In the upper part of the first light is a representation of Elijah under the juniper tree, with the words, "An angel touched him, and said, arise and eat" (1 Kings, xix. 5); below is Manoah's sacrifice, "And the angel of the Lord ascended in the flame" (Judges, xiii. 20). In the second light are the pool of Bethesda, "An angel went down into the pool" (St. John, v. 4); and the appearance to the shepherds, "Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings" (St. Luke, ii. 10). The third light contains the appearance to the disciples at the Ascension, "Behold two men stood by in white" (Acts, i. 10); and the Agony in the garden, "There appeared an angel unto Him from Heaven" (St. Luke, xxii. 43). In the fourth light are St. Peter's miraculous release from prison, "Forthwith the angel departed from him" (Acts, xii. 10); and the appearance to St. Paul during his voyage to Rome, "There stood by me this night the angel of God" (Acts, xxvii. 23). In the tracery above are figures of angels.

The west window in the north aisle, representing the stem of Jesse, by Clayton and Bell, was put up by James Taylor, Esq., of Whitley Hall, Wigan, in memory of Jane, his wife, who died 16th December, 1872. The next to it, between the west end and the north door, the subject of which is "the Good Samaritan," executed by Clayton and Bell, was put up in memory of Egerton Leigh Wright, Esq., who died at Hartford, 27th November, 1878, by Mrs. Thomas Hargreaves, her two sons and her daughter. That in the north wall, east of the north door, by Clayton and Bell, with naval scenes in each compartment, was put up soon afterwards by Miss Hargreaves, to the memory of Captain Arthur Augustus Macleod, who died at Bonny, on the West Coast of Africa, 16th March, 1878.

LIST OF RECTORS OF WIGAN.

| NAMES OCCUR A.D. | CAUSE OF LAST AVOIDANCE. |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1199 —1205 | Ranulph |
| 1205 | Robert de Dunolm (or Durham) Cession of Ranulph. |
| c.1242-5—1265 | John Maunsell..... |
| 1265 | Richard Death of Maunsell. |
| 1292 —1303 | Adam de Walton.... |
| 1303 —1334 | Robert de Clyderhou Death of Walton. |
| 1334 —1344 | John (or Ivo) de Langton Death of Clyderhou. |
| 1344 —1350 | John de Craven |
| 1350 —1359 | John de Winwick.... Cession of Craven. |
| 1359 —1359 | Richard de Langton Cession of Winwick. |
| 1359 —1362 | Robert de Lostock... Cession of R. de Lang- ton. |
| 1362 —1370 | Walter de Campeden Cession of Lostock. |
| 1370 —1415 | James de Langton... Death of Campeden. |
| 1415 —1432 | William de Langton Death of J.de Langton. |
| 1432 —1446-7 | James de Langton... Cession of W. de Langton. |
| 1451 —1462-3 | Oliver de Langton... |
| 1485 —1504 | John Langton |
| 1504 —1506 | Thomas Langton ... Death of J. Langton. |
| 1506 —1519 | Richard Wyot Death of Tho. Langton. |
| 1519 —1524 | Thomas Linacre, M.D. Cession of Wyot. |
| 1528 —1532 | Nicholas Towneley... |
| 1532 —1535 | Richard Langton.... Death of Towneley. |
| 1535 —1543 | Richard Kyghley ... Death of Langton. |
| 1543 —1550 | John Herbert..... Death of Kyghley. |
| 1550 —1551 | John Standish. Death of Herbert. |
| 1551 —1554 | Richard Smyth..... Cession or deposition of Standish. |
| 1554 —1558 | Richard Gerard Death of Smyth. |

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| NAMES OCCUR A. D. | | CAUSE OF LAST AVOIDANCE. |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1558 —1569 | Thomas Stanley | Death of Gerard. |
| 1569 —1570 | William Blackleach... | Death of Gerard. |
| 1571 —1604 | Edward Fleetwood... | Cession of Blackleach. |
| 1604 —1616 | Gerard Massie..... | Death of Fleetwood. |
| 1616 —1643 | John Bridgeman..... | Death of Massie. |
| 1643 —1653 | James Bradshaw | Deprivation of Bridge- man. |
| 1653 —1662 | Charles Hotham | Ejection of Bradshaw and death of Bridge- man. |
| 1662 —1668 | George Hall..... | Ejection of Hotham. |
| 1668 —1672 | John Wilkins | Death of Hall. |
| 1673 —1686 | John Pearson | Death of Wilkins. |
| 1686 —1689 | Thomas Cartwright.. | Death of Pearson. |
| 1689 —1707 | Nicholas Stratford... | Death of Cartwright. |
| 1707 —1713 | Hon. Edward Finch. | Death of Stratford. |
| 1714 —1741 | Samuel Aldersey..... | Cession of Finch. |
| 1741 —1750 | Roger Bridgeman.... | Death of Aldersey. |
| 1750 —1775 | Shirley Cotes..... | Death of Bridgeman. |
| 1776 —1790 | Guy Fairfax..... | Death of Cotes. |
| 1790 —1832 | George Bridgeman... | Cession of Fairfax. |
| 1833 —1864 | Henry John Gunning | Death of Bridgeman. |
| 1864 | Hon. George Thomas Orlando Bridgeman | Cession of Gunning. |

ASSISTANT CURATES AT WIGAN PARISH CHURCH.

| NAMES OCCUR A. D. | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1199—1205 | Adam de Frekelton occurs as vicar of Wigan, 1199, 1205. ¹ |
| 1340 | Robert de Kendale, clerk of Wigan (probably curate), oc. 1340. |

¹ See page 3.

NAMES OCCUR

A.D.

- 1532 William Hasteley (curate of Wigan) oc. 1532.¹
- c.1543-1552 Ralph Scott (curate of Wigan) oc. before 1543,
1552.²
- c.1543-c.1550 Henry Grange, stipendiary of Robert Langton,
c.1543-c.1550 Hugh Cokson, chaplain to Thomas Gerrard, Esq., and
c.1543-c.1550 Sir Gilbert Aspull also appeared and answered their
names at the bishop's visitation as priests serving
in the parish of Wigan about 1543; and in or
about 1550, in addition to the above-named
priests (of whom Hugh Cokson had now become
chantry priest of the Bradshaigh chantry) the
following answered their names or were excused
from appearing at the bishop's visitation, namely,
c.1550 William Aspull (Astley?), chaplain to Miles
Gerard, Esq., John Gerard, Thomas Barnes, and
Matthew Heye.
- 1594-1604 [Robert] Thompson, minister, signs his name at
the bottom of the pages of the Wigan parish
register.³
- 1605-1610 [Henry] Reynolds signs his name, together with
the churchwardens, from 1605 to 1610; he
appeared as curate at Wigan at the bishop's
visitation call in 1609. Mr. George Bordeman
was then schoolmaster there, Mr. Edward Tem-
pest curate at Holland, and Mr. Richard Bolton
reader at Billinge.⁴
- 1617-1621 Augustine Wildbore.⁵

¹ See p. 97.

² See pp. 112, 122.

³ See also p. 160.

⁴ Raines's *MSS.* vol. xxii. and Piccope's *MSS.* vol. x. (now xiii.) Mr. Edward Tempest was probably curate to the rector of Wigan, whose curate he continued to be till the year 1619.

⁵ Became vicar of Garstang 1621, vicar of Preston 1626, and vicar of Lancaster 1630, from which he was ejected in 1643.

NAMES OCCUR

A. D.

- 1619—1620 William Sherlock,¹ curate.
 1621 [William] Lewes²
 1621—1625 Thomas Bridge.³
 1625—1627 Robert Fog.⁴ Held the cure from Midsummer
 1625 to Midsummer 1627, when he left Wigan
 and went to Eccleston.
 1628 Henry Helyar.⁵
 1628—1630 James Starky.⁶
 1631—1632 Whitacres.
 1634 Hudson.
 1637 Charles Knot.
 1637—1640 Richard Collingwood.⁷
 1641 William Aynsworth and William Leigh, curates.⁸
 1664—1667 Peter Earle,⁹ curate.
 1671—1672 John Rawler,¹⁰ curate at Wigan.
 1675—1676 Samuel Shaw,¹¹ curate at Wigan.
 1668—1670 Edmund Lees,¹² curate.
 1679—1681 Richard Wroe, curate.¹³

¹ He was schoolmaster of Wigan in March 1621—2, having then given up the cure.

² William Lewes, probably the same person, was collated to the vicarage of Childwall by bishop Bridgeman in 1632 and ejected for his loyalty and episcopacy about 1647.

³ Became rector of Malpas 1624.

⁴ If he was the same with Robert Fogg who became rector of Bangor, in Flintshire, about 1643, he must have changed his religious views, for he was ejected as a nonconformist in 1662.

⁵ Son of Dr. William Helyar of Coker Court, Somerset, chaplain to Queen Elizabeth, and brother-in-law to bishop Bridgeman. He succeeded to Coker Court, and by his wife Christian, daughter and heiress of William Cary of Clovelly, in the county of Devon, Esq., had issue a son, William, from whom the Helyars of Coker are descended.

⁶ Became vicar of Preston 1630, on the resignation of Wildbore.

⁷ Wigan Leger, fo. 187.

⁸ These names are taken from the Parochial Register of Oct. 1641, and Wigan Leger, fo. 189.

⁹ Churchwardens' Vestry Book. ¹⁰ *Ibid.* ¹¹ *Ibid.* ¹² Parochial Register.

¹³ Local Gleanings relating to Lancashire and Cheshire, vol. i. p. 147. He was presented to the vicarage of Bowdon, Cheshire, 24th April, 1681, by bishop Pearson, and became warden of Manchester College in 1684.

NAMES OCCUR
A.D.

- 1686 Callis. ¹
 1686 James Peake. ²
 1686 [Thomas] Turner. ³
 1688—1691 Peter Haddon, ⁴ curate.
 1692—1693 Richard White, curate.
 1693 John Jackson, reader at Wigan.
 1695—1704 Zachariah Taylor, ⁵ curate.
 1703—1704 Thomas Johnson, curate.
 1707—1715 George Bowyer, ⁶ curate.
 1711 John Lowe, reader of Wigan, was buried at Wigan
 20 Sept. 1711.
 1717—1723 Thomas Eden, curate.
 1723—1740 John Baldwin, ⁷ curate.
 1739—1768 Thomas Edge, curate.
 1748—1751 Robert Cawley, curate.
 1768—1776 Stephen Ellis, curate.
 1768—1782 Thomas Whitehead, curate, licensed 12 Oct., 1768.
 1777—1779 Robert Knowles.
 1780—1798 John Fawel, ⁸ licensed 11 July, 1783.
 1782—1807 John Gibson, ⁹ literate, nominated 29 June, 1783.
 1798—1803 Thomas Meyrick, ¹⁰ B.A., licensed 11 July, 1799.
 1802—1809 Cecil Daniel Wray, ¹¹ licensed 1 October, 1803.

^{1 2 3} Bishop Cartwright's *Diary*, p. 567. James Peake was vicar of Bowdon, Cheshire, 1686—1690, and is called late vicar of Bowdon, 1711 (Helsby's Ormerod, vol. i. p. 519, and Cartwright's *Diary*, p. 568).

⁴ He was vicar of Wolston, Warwickshire, from 1679 to 1691, in which year he resigned the benefice (Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, p. 39, and Cartwright's *Diary*, p. 68).

⁵ See pp. 585 *et seq.*, *note*.

⁶ See p. 608, *note*.

⁷ Became incumbent of Upholland 1747; he was married at Wigan to Mrs. Jane Finch, 4 Feb., 1751.

⁸ Became incumbent of Upholland 1798.

⁹ Son of Rev. John Gibson, minister of St. John's chapel, Lancaster.

¹⁰ Became incumbent of Upholland 1802.

¹¹ Became canon of Manchester 1830, and rector of South Runcton, in the county of Norfolk, 1851

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NAMES OCCUR

A. D.

- 1808—1816 Thomas Pigot,¹ licensed 1 March, 1808.
 1809—1811 Edward Grime.²
 1811—1811 George Henderick.³
 1811—1814 Samuel Hall,⁴ licensed 21 January, 1812.
 1814—1831 Edward Hill,⁵ B.A., licensed 21 February, 1814.
 1816—1816 Christopher Bateson, curate.
 1816—1821 Benjamin Powell,⁶ licensed 6 January, 1816.
 1821—1825 George Goodwill,⁷ licensed 16 January, 1823.
 1826—1833 John Bromilow, B.A.,⁸ licensed 22 May, 1826.
 1831—1840 James Kirkland Glazebrook.
 1832—1832 Joshua Paley.
 1832—1837 Henry B. O'Neill.
 1837—1839 Edward Jones.
 1837—1844 Charles Bisset.⁹
 1841—1841 Benjamin Wilson.
 1841—1842 Henry B. Jones.
 1842—1846 John Lomas.¹⁰
 1843—1844 John Lingham.
 1844—1847 John Taylor Pigot.¹¹
 1846—1849 Arthur Coates.¹²
 1846—1847 Henry Veale.¹³

¹ Became vicar of St. Mary's, St. Helens, 1816; died rector of Blymhill, Staffordshire, 1840.

² Became incumbent of Hindley, Sept. 1811, and rector of Marston Bigott, in the county of Somerset, later in the same year.

³ Became incumbent of Hindley 1811.

⁴ Became incumbent of Billinge 1813.

⁵ Became incumbent of Hindley 1830; died 1853.

⁶ Became incumbent of St. George's, Wigan, 1821.

⁷ Died curate of Wigan 1825, in the 33rd year of his age.

⁸ Became incumbent of Billinge 1833.

⁹ Became incumbent of Upholland 1844.

¹⁰ Became incumbent of Holy Trinity, Walton-on-the-Hill, 1846.

¹¹ Minor canon of Rochester 1847; is now vicar of Fremington, Devonshire.

¹² Became incumbent of Pemberton 1849, which he resigned 1872.

¹³ Perpetual curate of St. Kenelm's, Romsley, 1847; rector of Newcastle-under-Lyne, Staffordshire, 1853.

NAMES OCCUR

A. D.

- 1847—1848 Edward Pigot.¹
 1848—1849 Edmund Wolryche Orlando Bridgeman.²
 1848—1848 George Dunbar Haughton.³
 1849—1851 Peter King Simmons.⁴
 1850—1853 Howard St. George,⁵ licensed 18 January, 1850.
 1850—1855 George Huntington.⁶
 1854—1855 Francis Henry Coldwell,⁷ licensed 28 January,
 1854.
 1855—1856 Henry Maclean, licensed 12 June, 1855.
 1855—1858 William Thomas Whitehead,⁸ B.A., licensed 6 June,
 1855.
 1856—1863 Charles Hutchinson Newbold,⁹ licensed 20 June,
 1856.
 1858—1860 Alexander Smith,¹⁰ B.A., licensed 6 May, 1858.
 1860—1863 Thomas Higham,¹¹ B.A., licensed 27 July, 1860.
 1863—1864 Edward Henry Aldridge,¹² B.A., licensed 1 May,
 1863.
 1863—1864 James Frederick Goggin,¹³ licensed 21 September,
 1863.

¹ Vicar of St. Thomas's, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Lancashire, 1848; is now rector of Whittington, Lancashire.

² Vicar of Kinnerley, Shropshire, 1848—1876; is now rector of Knockin, Shropshire.

³ Curate of Soham, Cambridgeshire, 1850.

⁴ Incumbent of St. Thomas's, Wigan, 1851.

⁵ Incumbent of Billinge, Lancashire, 1853.

⁶ Clerk in orders of Manchester Cathedral 1855; is now rector of Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

⁷ Took the name of Thicknesse; became vicar of Deane, Lancashire, 1855; is now bishop of Leicester.

⁸ Incumbent of St. Catherine's Wigan, 1858—1863.

⁹ Incumbent of Hindley, Wigan, 1863—1878.

¹⁰ Incumbent of St. George's, Wigan, 1860, which he resigned Nov. 1863.

¹¹ Incumbent of St. Catherine's, Wigan, 1863—1876.

¹² Curate of Chorley, Lancashire, 1864; is now vicar of Facit, Rochdale.

¹³ Rector of Luckington, Wilts., 1863—1867; is now rector of Rufford, Lancashire.

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NAMES OCCUR

A.D.

- 1864—1870 Arthur Henry Webb,¹ B.A., licensed 28 October,
1864.
1865—1871 Albert Harry Hodd,² M.A., licensed 27 January,
1865.
1867—1868 William James Webb,³ B.A., licensed 16 June,
1867.
1870—1872 Lewis Richard Charles Bagot,⁴ B.A., licensed 25
September, 1870.
1870—1874 Francis Slater,⁵ B.A., licensed 18 December, 1870.
1871—1877 George Arthur Edwin Kempson,⁶ B.A., licensed 29
November, 1871.
1873—1875 John Blount Meredith,⁷ B.A., licensed 28 June,
1873.
1874 Henry Hutchinson⁸ came to Wigan Aug. 1874.
1875—1877 Frederick Augustus Holden Vinen,⁹ licensed 25
May, 1875.
1875—1881 Roland George Matthew,¹⁰ B.A., licensed 19 Sep-
tember, 1875.
1876—1881 Andrew Edward Phillimore Gray,¹¹ B.A., licensed
12 March, 1876.

¹ Incumbent of Dalton, Lancashire, 1870-1878 ; is now vicar of St. Paul's, Crewe.

² Died curate of Wigan 6th August, 1871.

³ Curate in charge of St. Barnabas, Bradwell, Derbyshire, 1868-1876, and vicar 1876-1881 ; is now vicar of Alrewas, Staffordshire.

⁴ Became rector of East Bradenham, Norfolk, 1872 ; is now vicar of Stanton Lacy, Shropshire.

⁵ Served at Coatham, Yorkshire, 1874-1876 ; is now vicar of St. James's, Latchford, Cheshire.

⁶ Curate of Castle Bromwich, Warwickshire, 1877-1879 ; vicar of St. James's, Congleton, Cheshire, 1879-1887 ; is now rector of Rendcomb, Gloucestershire.

⁷ Chaplain of Salop county prison 1875-1876 ; is now vicar of Kinnerley, Shropshire.

⁸ Died curate of Wigan 1874.

⁹ Curate of St. Thomas the Martyr, Oxford, 1877-1880.

¹⁰ Perpetual curate of St. Michael and All Angels, Wigan, 1881.

¹¹ Curate of Wolsingham, in the county of Durham, 1881 ; vicar of Poynton, Cheshire, 1882-1885 ; is now rector of Wallasey, Cheshire.

NAMES OCCUR
A.D.

- 1877—1889 Douglas Stuart Murray,¹ B.A., licensed 27 May, 1877.
- 1878—1886 Charles Dudley Pater,² B.A., licensed 16 June, 1878.
- 1878—1880 James Bailey³ became curate of Wigan, November, 1878.
- 1880—1885 Charles John Buckmaster,⁴ B.A., licensed 22 February, 1880.
- 1880—1882 Charles James Parsons,⁵ licensed 23 May, 1880.
- 1880—1883 Edward Percy Alexander,⁶ licensed 4 January, 1880.
- 1882—1885 Edmund Ralph Ruck Keene, licensed 17 December, 1882.
- 1883 Hugh Francis Lloyd, licensed 23 December, 1883, now curate of Wigan.
- 1885 Arthur Campion Brown, licensed 31 May, 1885, now curate of Wigan.
- 1886 Edward Henry Herbert Brodhurst, licensed 9 November, 1886, now curate of Wigan.

¹ Became rector of Blithfield, Staffordshire, 1879.

² Became vicar of St. Anne's, Richmond, Liverpool, 1886.

³ Died 27th February, 1880.

⁴ Became vicar of Hindley, Lancashire, 1885.

⁵ Served at Colyton, Devon, 1882—1884; is now curate of Bovey Tracey.

⁶ Became vicar of Alvanley, Cheshire, 1883.

CHAPELS OF EASE IN THE PARISH OF
WIGAN.

Of the chapels of ease in the parish of Wigan three only are of earlier date than the present century, and of these only that of Holland, or Upholland, has any ancient ecclesiastical history.

UPHOLLAND.

There was an ancient priory here, which was suppressed about 1535, when the priory church or chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr became a chapel of ease to the parish church of Wigan.

Dugdale, speaking of the Priory of Holand, or Holland, in the parish of Wigan, says :¹

“The history of this house is comprised in a very narrow space. The original foundation was a college, or chantry, consisting of a dean and twelve secular priests, in the church, or chapel, of St. Thomas the Martyr here, who were changed A.D. 1319, by Walter [de Langton] bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, at the petition of Sir Robert de Holand, the then patron, into a Prior and Benedictine monks.”

The reasons assigned by the bishop for the change were the disagreement of the canons or chaplains and neglect of worship. They had performed their duties only for a short time, and had then for a long time deserted the place, so that the religious exercises had almost entirely ceased.²

Ralph de Sondbache (Sandbache), dean of the chapel or collegiate church of St. Thomas the Martyr of Holand, and appropriator of the church of Childwall, resigned his rights into the hands of the bishop, by deed, dated at Wygan on the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist (18th October), 1318, and sealed with the common seal of the chapter.³

¹ *Monasticon Anglicanum*, ed. of 1823, vol. iv. p. 409.

² *Magnum Registrum Album*, F. 174^b, in the muniment room of the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield.

³ *Ibid.* F. 174.

The resignation of Thomas de Sotton (Sutton), one of the canons, was dated at Holand on Saturday next before the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, 1318. For the further confirmation of the deed, he caused the seal of the deanery of Weryngton (Warrington) to be appended to it, in addition to the capitular seal, with a thread between, "*filo mediata*."¹ The other canons who resigned their rights, in the same form, were Walter de Derby, Hugh Lespencer, and William de Walton.

The bishop's commission to Masters William de Bosco, chancellor of Lichfield, Geoffrey de Blaston, archdeacon of Derby, and Philip de Turvill, canon of Lichfield, to act for him in the matter of the ordination, reformation, and translation of the state of the said collegiate church, was dated at Eccleshall 17th calends of January, 1318 (1318-9).² The archdeacon of Derby was excused from acting on account of ill health, and so the commission was left to the other two.³

The assent of Sir Robert de Holand, knight, the patron, was dated at Pontefract on the day of the purification of the blessed Virgin (2nd Feb.), 1318 (1318-9);⁴ and the bishop's judgment was signed in the calends of March following.⁵

The same Sir Robert de Holland, or Holand, who asked for the translation of the secular canons, was probably the original founder.⁶ The old foundation was endowed with the church of

¹ *Magnum Registrum Album*, F. 174^b.

² *Ibid.* 173^b.

³ *Ibid.* 174.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Tanner's *Notitia Monast.* fol. 284-5. Sir Robert de Holand, son of Ingelran de Holand, of Holand, was the first of his family who rose to eminence. He owed his advancement to his being secretary to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, from whom he had a grant of the manor of Yoxall, in the county of Stafford, to him and Maud his wife and the heirs of their bodies, in the time of King Edward I., in whose Scottish wars he had taken part. In 1 Edward II. he obtained large territorial grants from the crown, viz., the manors of Melburne, Newton, Osmundeston, Swarkeston, Chelardeston, Normanton, and Wybeleston, in the county of Derby, and the same year was again summoned to march against the Scots. In 5 Edw. II. he was made governor of Beeston Castle, in the county of Chester; soon after which, in 7 Edw. II., having married Maud, one of the daughters and coheirs to Alan la Zouche, of Ashby, in the county of Leicester, he had an assignation of several manors in the counties of

Childwall, in the county of Lancaster, and Wytewyke or Whichwerke (Whitwick), in the county of Leicester, together with the chapel or church of St. Thomas the Martyr and certain rents given by Sir Robert de Holland for the support of the canons.

Northampton, Herts., and Oxon; also of the patronage of Lilleshall Abbey, in the county of Salop; and in the same year had summons to be at Newcastle-upon-Tyne upon the festival of our Lady's Assumption, well fitted with horse and arms, to restrain the incursions of the Scots. In 8 Edw. II., 1314, he was summoned to parliament as a baron; and in the 10th and 12th of the same reign he was again in the wars of Scotland, in which latter year he obtained licence to make a castle of his manor house at Bagworth, in the county of Leicester. In 15 Edw. II., when Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, made insurrection against the King, Sir Robert de Holand promised to join him with all the forces he could muster, but, failing to keep his engagement, Lancaster was forced to escape northwards. He was finally taken prisoner at the battle of Boroughbridge and beheaded, when Sir Robert gave himself up to the King at Derby, and was sent prisoner to Dover Castle. His duplicity towards the Earl of Lancaster, his lord and patron, on this occasion, made him hateful to the Lancastrians, and being afterwards taken prisoner a second time in a wood near Henley Park, towards Windsor, he was beheaded on the nones of October (7th October), 1328, and his head sent to Henry, Earl of Lancaster, then at Waltham Cross, in the county of Essex, by some of his private friends. His estates were confiscated, but were restored to his family by King Edward III. before 1372. By his wife, Maude la Zouch, he left issue four sons—Robert, Thomas, Alan, and Otho. Thomas, the second son, highly distinguished himself in the wars of France, and having married Joan, "the fair maid of Kent," daughter and eventual heiress of Edmund Plantagenet, Earl of Kent, younger son of King Edward I., he assumed the title of Earl of Kent in right of his wife, which title became extinct on the death of his grandson Edmund, Earl of Kent. Sir Robert, second Baron de Holand, the eldest son of the Sir Robert founder of the monastery, who also served in the wars of France, died in 1373, leaving as his sole heir Maud, the daughter of his son Robert de Holand, who predeceased him. Maud de Holand became the wife of John Lovel, baron Lovel of Tichmersh, to whom she carried the barony of Holand. The manor of Holland was held by the Lovels till it was forfeited by the attainder of Francis, Viscount Lovel, after the battle of Bosworth in 1485, when it was granted by Henry VII. to Thomas, first Earl of Derby. It was conveyed by sale, in the year 1717, to Thomas Ashurst of Ashurst, in the parish of Wigan, Esq., by Henrietta Maria, Countess of Ashburnham, only surviving daughter and heiress of William George Richard, ninth Earl of Derby; and being sold by Henry Ashurst, Esq., in 1751, to Sir Thomas Bootle of Melling and Lathom, it has descended to his representative, the Earl of Lathom. The castle of Holland, formerly the residence of the Lords Holand, which was fortified in the year 1307, 1 Edward II., by royal licence, has long since disappeared.

These estates were transferred to the new foundation, and a pension of 40s. was reserved to the dean and chapter of Lichfield.¹

Bishop Langton's commission to his chancellor and the archdeacon of Derby for instituting the prior of the newly ordained priory, and assigning statutes thereto, was dated at Lichfield 12th April, 1319;² on which same day, by deed dated at Joxall (Yoxall), Sir Robert Holland presented Thomas de Doncaster as first prior of the new institution,³ who as a monk of the priory of St. John, Pontefract, received absolution of monastic obedience from Simon, prior of that monastery, 2nd calends of April, 1319.⁴ He also had absolution from monastic obedience and leave to move to Holland granted by John, prior of St. Pancras, Lewis, as High Chamberlain of the order of Clugny, dated at Lewis 4th nones of April, 1319.⁵

By the charter of the new foundation it was settled that after every future vacancy of the priorate the convent should return three of their number to the patron, who should choose one of them and present him to the diocesan for his approval.

The charter of the new foundation is thus given by Dugdale, from a charter of *inspeximus* by King Edward II. :⁶

"Rex omnibus ad quos, &c., salutem. Inspeximus literas patentes venerabilis patris Walteri, Coventren. et Lichfelden. episcopi, in hæc verba. Universis sanctæ matris ecclesiæ filiis ad quorum noticiam præsentēs literæ pervenerint, Walterus permissione divina Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis episcopus salutem, et gratiam Salvatoris. Noveritis quod cum olim in ecclesia seu capella collegiata sancti Thomæ martyris de Holand nostræ diocesis fuissent capellani, ad famulandum Deo personaliter, et continuo constituti, certis ad ipsorum sustentationem redditibus assignatis. Pro eo tamen quod dicti capellani, qui paucis postmodum temporibus fuerant concordēs, prædictum locum a diu et temerè deseruerant, et

¹ *Magnum Registrum Album*, F. 185^b.

³ *Ibid.*, F. 185.

⁵ *Ibid.* F. 185.

² *Ibid.*, F. 184^b.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶ Pat. 11 Edw. II. p. 2, m. 3.

sic religio seu devotio, quæ ibidem perpetuo fieri et exerceri sperabatur, dissolvitur penitus et cessavit. Nos collegium ibidem ordinatum dispersum considerantes, et divinum cultum in eodem loco frustratum conspicientes, desiderantesque propter religionis et divini cultus augmentum statum loci prædicti in melius reformari, decanum et capellanos dicti loci omnes et singulos ac omnes alios quorum intererat, seu interesse poterat in hac parte, ad proponendum canonicum (si quod haberent) quare propter causas præmissas, et alias causas legitimas nos merito inducentes, ibidem monachi, vel canonici regulares ordinari et constitui non deberent, coram nobis vel commissariis nostris in hac parte ad certos diem et locum fecimus ad iudicium evocari. Et tandem legitimo processu, qui circa hoc requirebatur, in omnibus præhabito et observato, ponderatis in omnibus ponderandis juribus universis dictum negotium tangentibus, et cum magna maturitate legitimè discussis, ad honorem Dei, et beati Thomæ martyris gloriosi, et ad augmentationem cultus divini ex causis præmissis, et quia locus prædictus (inspecta ejus feracitate et situ) magis videtur conveniens viris religiosis quam secularibus ibidem perpetuò mansuris, ad dictum locum de Holand vacantem, monachos ordinis Sancti Benidicti, nigrum habitum gerentes, de assensu et consensu expresso patroni ejusdem loci, transferendos, ordinandos, et præficiendos, ibidem Deo in perpetuum famulandos, auctoritate nostra diæcesana pronuntiare fecimus, et in scriptis. Nos igitur Walterus permissione divina Episcopus antedictus, fratrem Thomam de Donecastre monachum ordinis Sancti Benedicti, nigrum habitum gerentem, in dicto loco vacante, ut præmittitur, qui ad ejus regimen per nobilem virum dominum Robertum de Holand ejusdem loci verum patronum nobis extitit præsentatus, auctoritate nostra præfici fecimus in priorem, et ipsum institui canonicè in eodem, et prædictum locum de Holand cum omnibus possessionibus eidem adjacentibus, redditibus, tenementis, libertatibus, et pertinentiis quibuscunque, una cum advocatione ecclesiæ de Whichwerke, et ecclesiæ de Childwelle dicto loco de Holand, et collegio dudum ibidem existenti, jam pridem, cum suis juribus et pertinentiis quibuscunque de domini nostri regis licentia

appropriata, eidem fratri Thomæ priori prædicto, et suis successoribus, prioribus ejusdem loci, suoque conventui, et confratribus monachis usque ad numerum duodecim, juxta modum et regulam ordinis antedicti, ibidem Deo deservituris imperpetuum, de assensu et consensu expresso patroni prædicti super translationem hujusmodi faciendam (de quibus nobis per literas suas constabat) ad plenum assignari fecimus, et appropriari, ad sustationem eorundem prioris et conventus, suorumque successorum prædictorum in perpetuum optinenda. Fure tamen pontificali, archidiaconali, et parochiali in dictis ecclesiis de Holand et Childwall nobis et successoribus nostris, et ipsi archidiacono, et successoribus suis, ac pensione quadraginta solidorum ab ecclesia de Childwall antedicta, prædicto loco de Holand, ut præmittitur appropriata, prædicto ecclesiæ cathedrali Lichfeldiensi debita et constituta: insuper et jure patronatus prædicto domino Roberto, et suis hæredibus semper salvis. Volentes et ordinantes de assensu et consensu expresso patroni prædicti, quod quotiens dictum prioratum de Holand, cedente vel decedente priore ejusdem, vacare contigerit, liceat conventus ejusdem prioratus tres monachos idoneos ejusdem domus eligere, quorum unus per patronum loci juxta electionem dicti conventus approbatus, et loci diæcesano presentatus, præficiatur canonicè in priorem item et quod monachi ibidem existenses, et qui pro tempore fuerint faciant professionem suam prædicto priori et suis successoribus prioribus in loco de Holand antedicto. Insuper et quod tempore vacationis prioratus prædicti liceat patrono ejusdem unum servientem ad custodiam portæ præfati prioratus assignare. Qui tamen de bonis dicti prioratus disponere non præsumat, sed pro tempore vacationis de bonis ejusdem prioratus pro se, et uno equo, et unico garcione tantummodo alimentetur. Insuper quod dicti religiosi rogent specialiter pro animabus omnium pro quibus capellani dudum existentes onerati fuerant exorare. In quorum omnium et singulorum testimonium, sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Data Lichfeld decimo die mensis Junii anno domini MCCCXIX. et consecrationis nostræ anno xxiiij. Nos autem," &c.

John de Barneby occurs as prior of Holland in 1350, when he and others were indicted for a riot and acquitted.¹

Robert was prior in 1391, when he presented a petition to the King and his council praying for justice against Henry Tebbe, of Threnguston, and others, who had violently thrust him out and driven him from his church of Whitwick, in the county of Leicester, and taken from him an obligation for 100 shillings which he owed him, putting him and his servants in fear of their lives. The said Henry Tebbe and John Grenelowe, the principal malefactors, were arrested and imprisoned in the Fleet, from which they were released after paying a fine to the King and coming to terms of agreement with the prior.²

John Topping was prior of St. Thomas the Martyr of Holland in 7 Ed. IV.³ (1467-8).

John Port was prior in 21 Hen. VIII.⁴ (1529-30); and Peter Prescote at the time of the dissolution about 1535-6.

According to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of the 26th of Henry VIII. (1534-5), the total revenue of this house amounted to £61 3s. 4d., the clear income to £53 3s. 4d. *per annum*, which is thus given :

Monastery of Holande.

Demesne of Hollande belonging to the said monastery
situate in the county of Lancaster.

Value in rents and demesne lands there annually..... £4 0 0

Demesne of Markeland and Garston in the county of
Lancaster.

Value in rents and farms of certain lands and tene-
ments there annually 8 10 0

Rectory of Chyldwall in the county of Lancaster
impropriated to the said monastery of Holande.

Value in tithe corn there annually £35 10s. In hay

¹ Pat. 23 Edw. III. p. 1 (*Monasticon*, vol. iv. p. 409).

² Nichol's *Leicestershire*, vol. iii. p. 1119.

³ *Plea Rolls, Lancashire*, 7 Edw. IV., No. 30 (?).

⁴ *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. ii. p. 42.

tithe there annually 13s. 4d. In tithe lambs and
 wool there annually £2 10s.Total 38 13 4
 Rectory of Wytewyke (Whitwick) in the county of
 Leicester.
 Value in tithe corn with wool let to farm at annually. 10 0 0

Sum of the whole value£61 3 4
 Reprisals.
 Pensions.

Annual pension paid to the cathedral church of Lich-
 field £2. Also an annual pension paid to the
 Carthusian lords of Shene [domin' chartus' de
 Shene] annually £1 6s. 8d.Total 3 6 8
 Money paid for Sinodals and procurations.

In money paid annually to the wardens of the church
 of Wytewyke in the county of Leicester £1. Also
 in money paid annually to the archdeacon of Chester
 for sinodals and procurations £1 2 0 0
 Fees.

Also in fees paid to William Cheydok bailiff of Child-
 wall annually £2. Also in fees to Arnulph Lathum
 bailiff of Markelande in Garston annually 13s. 4d.
 Total *per annum* 2 13 4

Sum of reprisals..... £8 0 0
 There remains clear 53 3 4
 The tithe of which is..... 5 6 4¹

In "the Brevyate of the brieff Certificat' uppon the newe
 Survey of the Religiousse houses within the Countie Palatyn of
 Lancastr given to the Kings highnes by Acte of P'lyment And
 within the case of Dissolution,"² of which the date seems to be
 about February 1538-9 (these lesser monasteries were given to
 the King about three years earlier, when a survey alluded to

¹ *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, vol. v. p. 221.

² Harl. MS. 604, fol. 91.

here as the *old* survey was taken), the following particulars are given of Holland monastery, in Wigan parish, of which Peter Prescote was prior:—"The first value £53 3s. 4d. Second value £78 12s. 9d. Bells, lede and Goods £132 2s. 8d. Wodds worth to be solde £40. Debts owynge by the house £28 18s. 10d. Religious P'sons 5. Serv'nts and others havynge livyngs there 21. Th' offer for the Redemc'on of the said house to be paid at . . days £250 4s." The reference, as indeed the entry itself, is not correctly given in the Appendix (p. 14) of Browne-Willis's *Mitred Abbeys*.¹

After the suppression, the site of Holland priory passed into the hands of John Holcroft, Esq.

*Transcript of Particular for Grant to Holcroft, 36 Hen. VIII.*² (from the original in the Augmentation Office):—

"Memorand. that I, John Holcroft, Esquier, require to purchase of the Kyngs highnes the scite of the late priory of Holland, in the countye of Lanc. with all the demayn lands belonging, and c'tein lands, teñts, and hereditaments, lying in the townes and hamletts of Holland, Orrell, Wygan, Markeland, and Pemberton, in the said county of Lanc. belonging to the said late priory, being of the clere yerely value of £18 11s. 2d. In wyttenes whof I, the said John Holcroft, have subscrybed this bill with my hande and put to my seale the day and yere in the rate above mencioned.

JOHN HOLCROFT.

Parcelle Possessionum nuper Prioratus de Hollande jam Parcelle de ducatus Lancastriæ in comitatu palatino Lancastriæ.

Scitus nuper prioratus de Hollande, cum terris dominicalibus eidem pertinentibus infra parochiam de Wygan, unacum omnibus aliis terris et tenementis temporalibus eidem nuper prioratui pertinentibus in Ollande, Orrell, et Wygan, ac Markelande alias Marghlande, infra villatam de Pemberton.

¹ *Inventories of Goods in the Churches and Chapels of Lancashire*, Chetham Society vol. cxiii. pp. 77, 78.

² *Monasticon*, vol. iv. p. 411.

Valet in

*Scitus nuper prioratus cum terris dominicalibus in Hollande et
Merkelande.*

£ s. d.

Firma domus et scitus nuper prioratus de Hollande, cum omnibus domibus, edificiis, orreis, stabulis, ortis, gardenis, pomariis, stagnis, et solo infra scitum et præinctum dicti nuper prioratus existentibus, ac cum certis terris, tenementis, pratis, et pasturis dominicalibus subscriptis: viz. Clausi vocati Highfelde jacentis juxta Regiam Viam sive Stratam ibidem, continentis per estimationem quatuor acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati Longhill, continentis per estimationem quinque acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati Cokeshotts et Clateryn Croft, continentis per estimationem septem acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati Lytylhill et Lytelbotte continentis per estimationem tres acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati Mylnehill, continentis per estimationem tres acras et dimidium. Alterius clausi vocati Deynefelde, continentis per estimationem tres acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati Kynecroft alias Oldefelde, continentis per estimationem duas acras et dimidium. Alterius clausi vocati Tallowefelde, continentis per estimationem duas acras et dimidium. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati le Sommory, continentis per estimationem tres acras et dimidium. Unius parcelle, continentis per estimationem unam acram, vocatæ Dayhouse Crofte. Alterius clausi vocati Oxhey, continentis per estimationem quinque acras et dimidium. Alterius clausi terræ ibidem vocati le Great Marlett hey, cum le Clough de Ollers, continentis per estimationem quatuor acras. Alterius clausi ibidem vocati le Beanecrofte et Lytle Marlett, continentis per estimationem duas acras. Alterius

clausi vocati le Orcharde, continentis per estimationem unam acram et dimidium. Quæ quidem clausi prædicti continentes inter se per estimationem quadraginta octo acras, sive plus sive minus, inde habeantur. Necnon redditus sive firma sex acrarum prati in Markelande, ac primæ vesturæ duarum acrarum prati in Helmedowe; ac etiam unius molendini aquatici vocati Merkelande Mylne, et unius molendini aquatici vocati Hollande Mylne alias Dene Mylne, unacum quadam separali mora in Hollande, continente per estimationem duas acras, assignata firmario pro turbariis et focale suis sic per indenturam sub sigillo ducatus Lancastriæ, datam secundo die anno tricesimo regis Henrici Octavi, Thomæ Butler militi, ad firmam dimissa (exceptis inde domino regi et hæredibus suis omnino reservatis omnibus grossis arboribus, boscis et sub-boscis, præmissorum, et cujuslibet inde parcellæ, ac omnibus talibus et hujusmodi domibus et edificiis infra scitum prioratus prædicti quæ dictus dominus rex ibidem imposterum prosterni et auferri mandaverit, exceptis etiam et reservatis ecclesia et campanile, ac cæmitario ibidem et camera ad finem occidentalem ecclesiæ prædictæ, cum parvo gardino eidem cameræ adjacente). Habendum et tenendum domum et scitum prioratus prædicti et cætera præmissa, cum omnibus libertatibus, commoditatibus et emolumentis quibuscumque eidem pertinentibus, exceptis præexceptis, præfato Thomæ et assignatis suis a festo Sancti Michaelis Archangel ultimo præterito ante datam indenturæ prædictæ usque ad finem termini viginti unius annorum extunc proximo sequentium et plenarie complendorum. Et præfatus firmarius oneratur, cum omnibus reparationibus præmissorum præter mærenium et coopertura £ s. d.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|----|
| <i>tegulæ et sclatæ quæ dictus dominus rex inveniet.</i> | £ | s. | d. |
| <i>Et licebit præfato firmario et assignatis suis capere et habere competentem et sufficientem hedgebote, fyerbote, ploughbote, et cartebote de et super præmissis, et non alibi, annuatim expendendum et capiendum.</i> | | | |
| <i>Et reddit per annum pro omnibus præmissis ad festa Annunciationis beatæ Mariæ Virginis et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli equaliter.....</i> | 7 | 5 | 10 |
| <i>Reddit' divers' cotag' in Holland.....</i> | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| <i>Reddit' tenementorum in Orrell, &c.....</i> | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| <i>Reddit' un' burgag' in Wygan.....</i> | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| <i>Reddit' tenementorum in Markelande infra villat' de Pemberton... ..</i> | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| <i>Reddit' sive firma al' ten' in Markelande</i> | 5 | 3 | 0 |

£18 11 2

Memor^d that the church of the seyde late monast'y, w^t the steeple and bells, and a chamber at the west ende of the seyde church, w^t a garden to the same adjoynnyng, and also the church yarde there, bene res'ved and appoynted to stande, remayne, and continue undessolved and unarented to th' use, easement, and comōdytie of the teñnts and inhītaunts of Hollande and other places and hamletts thereabowtts adjoynnyng, being distaunt from theyr hede pyshe churches too, thre, or foure myles, and some more whiche do use there to bery corpses of the seyde hamletts and townes, whiche in the wynter season, and other tempestyus tymes of the yere, by reason of greate aboundance of waters, can not conveniently convey ner cary the seyde corpses to theyr pyshe churches to be buried, as was declared by the seyde inhītañnts before the ryght honorables Edwarde Erle of Derby and Robert Erle of Sussex, the kyngs late levetenaunts in thes . . . , in the month of M'che, in anno 28th reg. Henrici viij.

Itm the pmysses is pcell of the possessyons of the late monast'y of Hollande as is above seyde, and is in distance

from the kyngs castell of Halton 15th or 16th myles, and is pcell of no maner or man's excedyng the yerely value of £40, to the knowledge of the seyde audyto^r nor the kyngs maiestie hath no other lands in the townes and plac^s above seyde belongyng to the seyde late pryory of Hollande to the knowledge of the seyde audyto^r except it be wasts or comens occupied by the teñnts of the p'mysse, and whereof the kyng hath no other pfett at this p'sent to the knowledge of the seyde audyto^r. What fynes or incumbe hath bene payed for the p'mysse the seyde audyto^r knoweth not.

Itm for the burgage in Wygan above specefyed, valued yerely at 8^s to the kyng, is chargeable and payeth yerely to the pson of Wygan 1^s of chefe rent, whiche the teñnts of the seyde burgage useth to pay yerely ov' and besyds the rent of 8^s payed to the kyng as is above seyde.

John Gage

Ex^d p Thomam Burgoyne, Audit.

16th die of April a^o 36th, p Joh'ne Holcrofte, Armig'o.

The scite of the priorie of Hollande, wth the demeanez of the same wthin the pysshe of Wighan, together wth the londs and teñnts belonging to the seyde late priorie in Holland, Orroll, and Wiggan, and M'kelond in the towne of Pemberton, in the countie of Lanc. pcell of the possessions of the late mon. or priorie of Hollande annexed to the duchye of Lanc., the church of the sayde late priorie, wth the steple and belles, a chambre at the west hend of the sayde church, wth a garden thereunto adioynyng and the church yarde onely excepted and res'ved, ys of the yerelye valowe of £18 11s. 2d. wherof deducted for the xth £1 17s. 1½d. and so remanyth clere £16 14s. 0½d.; whiche, rated at xx^{ti} yeres pchace, £334 os. 10d. Adde therto for the woods £10 12s. and so the hole some ys £344 12s. 10d.; wherof in hand £200 and at Crystm̄s next the reest, £144 12s. 10d. The teanure and service.

Memor^d the kyng must discharge the p'misses of all incombrūnc^s excepte leasez and the xth before res'ved, ande excepte

suche charges as the fermors ar bounde to discharge by force of there indenturez."

The King's grant to John Holcroft of the site and precincts of the said priory, and other lands and tenements as above specified, was dated 22nd May, 37 Hen. VIII.¹ (1546).

It seems to have changed hands soon afterwards, for in the following year, 38 Hen. VIII., is a record of the homage of Sir Robert Worsley, knight, for the house and site of the late priory of Holland, in the parish of Wigan, and messuages, &c., in Wigan and Pemberton, with the appurtenances, done by the King's licence.²

In 1 May (1553-4) John Chadderton prosecuted George Ireland and Sir Thomas Benger, knight, for arrears of the parsonage lands of Childwall parsonage, late belonging to the dissolved priory of St. Thomas the Martyr of Holland.³

In the Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Office is the following record:—" *De manibus regis amovendis de situ monasterii de Holland in com. Lancastr. ac Rogero Charnock, gen. liberando.* Mich. Rec. 11 Jac. I. rot. 305.⁴

The priory lands were afterwards sold to the Bisphams of Bispham and Billinge, from whom the property descended to Sir Robert Holt Leigh, baronet, and is now vested in Roger Leigh of Hindley Hall, Esq. The said priory lands in Upholland, Orrell, and elsewhere in the parish of Wigan were tithe free, and still pay no tithes to the rector.

There is no register of this priory, nor any seal known to exist. The priory bore the armorial bearings of the family of Holland, the founders, viz., *Azure, a lion rampant gardant between 8 fleurs de lis argent; over all a bend gules, 3 keys the wards upwards or.*⁵

¹ Orig. 37 Hen. VIII. p. 5. Com. Lanc. ro. 6.

² *Monasticon*, from Orig. 38 Hen. VIII. p. 5. Lancastr. ro. 118.

³ *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. i. pp. 275, 276.

⁴ *Monasticon*.

⁵ *Ibid.*, from Edmondson's *Heraldry*.

A south-west view of the ruins of the priory was engraved by Buck in 1717.

Upon the suppression of this monastery, the church, which was reserved for the use of the people, became a chapel of ease to the parish church of All Saints, Wigan.

In 1590 it is recorded that there was no preacher at Holland.¹

At the visitation of Chancellor Yale in 1598, there was no curate at Holland: the Sunday services were provided for by the rector of Wigan;² one Mr. Mosse had done service there for a month, but was not licensed.³

By an ordinance of parliament passed in 1643 the chapelry of Holland was made into a parish, to which the townships of Holland and Dalton, the township of Orrell and part of the townships of Billinge and Winstanly were attached.⁴ In the return made by the parliamentary commissioners in 1650 it is spoken of as a parish church, which was formerly a chapel belonging to the parish of Wigan until by a late ordinance of parliament it was made a parish church. Mr. Richard Baldwin was then incumbent there.⁵ But this act not having received the royal assent the church relapsed, on the restoration of King Charles II. to its former state as a chapel of ease to the church of Wigan, in which condition it has since remained until within the last few years.

In the year 1724, according to a return made by Mr. William Birchall the curate, in 1706, with bishop Gastrell's notes added in 1724, the income was then about £40 *per annum*, viz., from the rector of Wigan £20, from the rent of a house of Ralph Ather-ton in the town £2 os. 8*d.*, from surples fees £2, and from contributions from the several townships within the chapelry about £16. From an entry in the bishop's *MS. Notitia* in the palace at Chester in 1779, it appears that the benefice had been augmented by a grant from Queen Anne's Bounty and by several

¹ *Lydiat Hall and its Associations*, p. 248.

² Rev. Edward Fleetwood was then rector of Wigan.

³ See pp. 175, 176.

⁴ See p. 437.

⁵ See p. 466.

benefactions amounting to £600, which were laid out in the purchase of land, which brought in to the curate £25 *per annum*.

Until the year 1750 the payment of £20 by the rector appears to have been voluntary. About the year 1746, the Rev. Mr. Warren, curate of Holland, gave or left one hundred pounds to the curate's benefit, but with this proviso, that if at any time the rector of Wigan, or any of his successors should not allow and pay to the curate of Holland for the time being the full sum of twenty pounds annually, then the said hundred pounds and the produce thereof he gave towards augmenting the salary of the Master of Holland school. In or about the year 1750, this sum of £20 *per annum* from the rector was secured by Dr. Roger Bridgeman, then rector, and the sum of £200 was also granted by the governors of Queen Ann's Bounty to augment the salary of the curate.¹

There were at that time daily services held in the chapel, and two services on Sundays, prayers on all holidays, catechizing in Lent, monthly communion, and from 150 to 200 communicants at Easter.

The chapelry of Upholland was constituted a new parish by order of council 30th November, 1882, with a district assigned to it consisting of the township of Upholland, Billinge Higher end, and part of the townships of Orrell and Winstanley.

Until very recently the church, which consisted of a nave and two side aisles with galleries, for the support of which portions of the pillars had been cut away so as to endanger the fabric, was in a very dilapidated state. It was restored in the year 1884, when a chancel was added to it. There are several brass monuments on the floor of the church: viz. within the old altar rails:

- (1) In memory of Holt Leigh of Hindley Hall and of Whitley Esq. who died in London on the 11th of March 1785, aged 55 years, and was interred there within the parish Church of S. Clement Danes.

¹ *Ex inf.* Rev. G. F. Wills, vicar of Upholland.

- (2) Here lieth the body of Mary, Relict of Holt Leigh of Hindley Hall and of Whitley Esq. who departed this life on the 28th of November 1794, aged 53 years. She was the younger of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Thomas Owen of Upholland Abbey Esq. and Margaret his wife who was the daughter and sole heiress of Thomas Bispham of Bispham Hall Esq, in Billinge.
- (3) Here lies interred the Body of Alexander Holt Leigh Esq. second son of the late Holt Leigh Esq. and Mary his wife, who died unmarried on the first of September 1823 in the 47th year of his age.
- (4) Here Lise the Body of Frances Bispham Relict of Tho : Bispham of Billinge Esq : who Departed this Life Nov 17, 1703 being the 60th year of her age.
- (5) Here Lieth the Body of Thomas Bispham of Billinge Esq who Dyed September the 22, 1677 in the 40th year of his age.

On the south side is a small brass on a pillar, with the following legend :

EXUVIÆ SCHOLÆ
UPHOLLANDIÆ MAGISTRI
JACOBI HULL. A.B.
HIC POSITÆ
ANNO SALUTIS 1723
SUAE Q3 42
ABI VIATOR
MORI Q3 MEMENTO.

On stone slabs—

In floor of north aisle :

To the memory of the Rev. J. FAWEL,
who died April 30, 1802, Aged 48 years,
Loved, lamented,
and unfortunate.

In the nave :

Ann Holme daughter of Thomas
Banks Esq. late of Winstanley and widow
of Hugh Holme Esq. late of Holland
Died June 2nd 1799
aged 93 years.

On another stone is engraved the name

RALPH BRA
DSHAW 1675

In the churchyard there is a vault belonging to the Banks' family, on which are engraved the following names :

Elizabeth wife of the Rev. Richard Prescott
was interred January 4th 1778

Also the Rev. Richard Prescott, A.M.,
Curate of Upholland was interred December
the 7th, 1797.

Also Harriet Jackson,
Departed this life Oct : 5th 1843.

Also R. E. N. Coleman
departed this life January 26th, 1845,
aged 37.

Richard Meyrick Esq.
Died Sept: 14th 1781.

Ann Meyrick, widow, was interred
October 29th 1792.

Meyrick Bankes
son of Meyrick & Maria Elizabeth Bankes
Died June 16th 1881 aged 70 years.
William Meyrick Bankes, Eldest son of
Meyrick & Eleanor Bankes. Died Feby: 22nd 1882
aged 37 years.
Meyrick Holme Bankes, Only son of William
Meyrick & Helen Bankes. Died Dec: 2nd 1881,
aged 10 months.

On a stone before the west door of the church :

HERE UNDERNEATH
THOU DOST APPRO
ACH MAN THE BOD
Y OF JOHN SMITH
THE COACHMAN.

CURATES AND INCUMBENTS OF UPHOLLAND.

- 1598 William Mosse, unlicensed.¹
- 1609 Edward Tempest, curate.²
- 1626 William Lever, preacher at Holland.³
- 1628 William Lewis, minister of Holland.⁴
- 1634 Richard Eaton, minister at Holland.⁵
- 1641—1646 Richard Whitfield.⁶
- 1646 Henry Shaw.⁷
- 1650 Richard Baldwin.⁸
- 1674—1677 Mr. Browne, minister of Upholland, July, 1674.⁹
- 1703—1707 William Birchall, minister of Holland.¹⁰

¹ Visitation of Chancellor, Dr. Yale.

² Bishop's visitation call.

³ Bishop Bridgeman's Wigan Leger.

⁴ See p. 306.

⁵ Wigan Leger.

⁶ See p. 437.

⁷ Baines's *Lancashire*, vol. iii. p. 39.

⁸ See p. 466.

⁹ Canon Raines's *MSS.*

¹⁰ Bishop Stratford's Steward's Accounts, see pp. 593, 594.

- 1704 Edward Sedgwick, received stipend as curate for serving at Upholland.¹
- 1719—1726 John Allen, M.A., nominated by Rev. S. Aldersey, rector of Wigan, 7 July, 1719;² died 1726.
- 1726—1728 Adam Banks, A.M., nom. 5 Sept., 1726.³
- 1728—1746 William [Simon] Warren, nom. 19 Aug. 1728;⁴ died 1746.
- 1746 Thomas Winstanley, B.A., licensed 2 October, 1746.⁵
- 1746—1747 James Miller, curate of Upholland from June, 1746, to June 1747.⁶
- 1747—1758 John Baldwyn, nominated 16 July, 1747.⁷
- 1758—1767 Thomas Holme, licensed 3 July, 1758;⁸ resigned 27 April, 1767.⁹
- 1767—1798 Richard Prescott, nominated 29 April, 1767;¹⁰ died 1797.
- 1798—1802 John Fawel, licensed 29 January, 1798;¹¹ died 1802.
- 1802—1821 Thomas Merrick, licensed 29 July, 1802;¹² resigned 1821.
- 1821—1844 John Bird, licensed 14 October, 1821;¹³ died 1844.
- 1844—1881 Charles Bisset, licensed 4 April, 1844;¹⁴ resigned 1881.
- 1881—1888 Frederick Daustini Cremer, M.A., licensed May, 1881;¹⁵ resigned 1888.
- 1888 George Frederick Wills, now vicar of Upholland, nominated 3 May, licensed 8 May, 1888.

BILLINGE CHAPEL.

After Upholland, with its ancient priory church, the chapel of Billinge comes next in order of precedency, being the only other

¹ Bishop Stratford's Steward's Accounts, see pp. 593, 594.

² Chester diocesan register.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Chester diocesan register.

⁶ Family MSS.

⁷ Chester diocesan register.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

chapel in the parish of Wigan which was in existence in the time of Henry VIII. As it is not mentioned in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, it must have been built sometime between 1534-5 and 1552, the date of an inventory of church goods taken by the King's Commissioners on 4th October of that year, when there was found to be "one Bell and other ecclesiastical ornaments" belonging to Byllynge.

In 31 Hen. VIII. (1539-40) there was a petition before the Duchy Court, in which the vicar of Billing charged James Roby and others with a disturbance of divine service at Billing.¹ The vicar's complaint is too much damaged to be transcribed accurately. It seems to record the building of the chapel, by consent of the rector of Wigan (Kyghley), on account of the distance of Billinge from the mother church. It proceeds to relate that divine service was accordingly held there "for a vertuose and godly entent, and for the eas of the people nere there adjoyninge;" that James Roby, one of the churchwardens, had collected and gathered to the use of the said chapel from the worshippers the sum of £7; and that this sum was delivered by Roby to one William Heyton, Esq., who wrongfully detained it, and in consequence "divine s'vice ministred wthin the sayd chappell is likely to be surseased and decayd for lake of payment of the p'sts wages ministrynge wthin the same." The vicar therefore prayed the court that, inasmuch as no rights, duties, nor laudable customs were withholden from the church of Wigan, it would direct the King's most honourable letters of privy seal to Heyton and Roby to pay the £7 to the use and maintenance of the chapel.

In the same reign (no date given) John Wynstanley appeared against James Roby, reve and churchwarden, William Heyton, and others, who were detaining money collected for the repairing

¹ *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. ix. B. 1, Cal. vol. i. p. 159. In the calendar the vicar of Billing is wrongly called William Billing. (*Inventory of Church Goods*, Part II., Chetham Society, vol. cxiii. p. 78).

of the ways to Byllinge chapel.¹ The decrees in these suits do not appear to have been recorded.

In the Duchy of Lancaster Pleadings is a petition which shows that a more serious hindrance to worship befel the parishioners a few years later. The document which follows is without date, but it belongs to the reign of Queen Mary, and seems to follow the passing of the statute of 1553, by which religion was restored to that state in which Edward VI. found it on his accession. Sir Robert Rochester, to whom it is addressed, was appointed chancellor of the Duchy 1 Mary (1553-4); and his successor, Sir Edward Waldegrave, was appointed 22nd June 4 and 5 Philip and Mary (1558):—

To the ryght Honorable Sr Robert Rochester Knyght Comp-
troller of the Queenes Maiesties howshold and chauncellor
of the Duchy of Lancaster.

In humble wyse compleyninge sheweth to yo^r hon^{ble} M^rshipp
yo^r daily orato^{rs} the Inhabitants of the towne of Byllynge w^{thin}
the p^ysshe of Wygan in the countie of Lan^c. That whereas
heretofore by the advyse consent and agreement of all the
inhabitants of the said towne of Byllynge as well gentylmen as
others the yeomen and co^monaltie of the same there hathe bene
a certane chapell co^monlie called Byllynge chapell created
buylded and made at the costs and charges of the said inhabi-
tants and o^r well disposed people nere adjoynynge in and upon
a certen parcell of waste ground w^{thin} the said towne for the
comodytie and ease of the same inhabitants and other places
nere adjoynynge being distant from any church the space of
four e myles or there abouts. And where also by the lycens and
sufferance of the p^rson of the p^rish of Wygan for the time being
the said inhabitants and o^r persons of divers other places nere
adjoynynge have always since the making of the said chapell
found one preest att there owne proper costs and charges to say

¹ Cal. of *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. i. p. 220 and cf. 260.

and sing mass matens and oyr devyne service and to mynyster the sacraments wthin the same whereunto the said inhabitants and other the said persons to the number of too h'ndrythe p'sons and above haue used and accustomed to resort and come upon the holy days and other tymes conveyent to the honor of God and the grett ease of all the said inhabitants and oyr the said places nere adjoining wth the encrease of godlyness and vertuous lyvyng in these partes. Nowe soe it is, ryght honorable Sr, y^t one James Wynstandley, of Wynstandley in the countie aforesaid, gent., ymedyatelye after proclamac'on had and made in the Queenes Maiesties name thatt nowe ys [*i.e.* Q. Mary] y^t all her lovyng subjects should be att their lybertye to use, frequentt, and resortt unto suche devyne s^ruyce as nowe ys used and accustomed wthin this her graces realm of England to the honor of God and the great rejoycing of all her said faythfull subjects that ys to say about the syxte daye of August last past neyther regardynge hys dutie towards god nor hys obedyence to the queenes maiesty, of a very p'verse and haughtye mynde and purpose and in derogac'on of the Queenes Maiestyes said proclomac'on and her graces procedynges did ryotouslye assemble unto hym at Byllynge aforesaid dyverse ryotouse and evell dysposed p'sons to the number of xx^{ti} p'sons, to yo^r said orators unknowen, and then and there so being assembled wth force and armes in very ryotouse man^r dyd entre into the said chapells. And on bell price iij^{li} one chalyce w^t a patentt price iij^{li} x^s ij vestmetts ij surpleses a crosse and a cruett and also ij chysts or coffers of the goods and eatables of yo^r said orators here and there found and being for the admynystrac'on of godds s^rvce w^t all and syngler oyr t' ornamentts belongynge to the same dyd nott only then and there ryotouslye wrongfully unjustlye and w^tout consyence take carye and conveye awaye and the same hathe converted to hys owne use butt also, nott beinge therew^t contented but myndynge utt^rlye to destroye the said chapell for ev^r, of verye malice and hate y^t he had and beare towards the service of god which he p'ceaved the queenes

maiestye was mynded to aduance and sett forwards, did lykewyse, pullinge downe the glasse which dyd stand in the wyndowes of the said chapell and casting out the formes cheyres and other thynge ordered for the ease of yo^r said orators wthin the same and convertynge the same to hys owne use, stoppe up the said wyndowes and walles of the said chapell wth bowes and bromes and hathe thereof made a barne wherein he hathe sett hys corne and heye and hathe ever synce wth lyke force and armes and ryotouse man^r so kept the said chapell, so y^t there cold nott be any devyne s^ruyce said or songe or any sacraments mynysfred wthin the same, by reson whereof the more p[']te of yo^r said orato^{rs} being so ferre dystant from any churche as ys afore-said have nott in the meane tyme herd seen or bene att any devyne s^rvyece, some being so Impotentt and aged some vysyted wth syknes and many being letted w^t oy^r occasions that they were not able to travayle so ferre from whom [home] for that p^rpose to the grett hyndrance and p^rjudice of the hono^r of God and his glorye, to the grett gryeff dyscomodytie and dysease of all yo^r said orato^{rs}, and nott unlyke to be the grett decaye of all suche godlinesse gud deuoc'on and vertuous lyvyng in those p[']tes excepte spedye remedye and redresse be had in the premisses, and for so much as yo^r said orators be nott incorporated by the name of any corporac'on by reason whereof they cannot sue for redresse in the premisses in their own names by the order of the comon lawes, and so are lyke to be w^tout remedye for ever unless yo^r gud M^rshyppes ayde and fav^r be herein to them shewed. Maye hytt therefore plesse yo^r gud M^rshyp, the p[']myss tenderlye consydered, to grant the quenes maiestyes most dread wrytt of p^rve seale to be directed to the said James Wynstandley comaundyng hym by vertue thereof to be before yo^r gud mast^rship in the Duchy chamber at Westm^r att a certeyn day and under a certeyn payne by yo^r gud m^rshype to be lymetted and appoynted, then and there to make answeare unto the premises and further to stand to such order therein as yo^r gud m^rshype shall think to stand w^t ryght equitye and gud

conscience and yo^r said orators shall daylye praye for yo^r gud m^rshyp long to contynue in honor. Halsall [*i.e.* counsel for the Plaintiff].¹ The subsequent decree is not to be found.

At the visitation held by David Yale, LL.D., chancellor of the diocese, in September, 1598, Billinge chapel was out of repair, and there were no books there but a Bible of the largest volume. There was no minister there, but one licensed to read.²

It has already been stated³ that in 1650, during the time of the Commonwealth, Mr. John Wright supplied the cure of the chapel of Billing, who is described as a "very honest godly Minist^r and of good lyffe and conversac'on, but kept not the fast day appointed by Act of parliam^t, and hath for his salary fifty pounds p. anⁿ, paid him by Mr. James Bradshaw, Minister att Wigan . . ., and a donative given by Thomas Billing unto the said chappell of forty six shillings eight pence p anⁿ, and likewise fflower pounds p anⁿ, a donative given by the Inhabitan^tes of Billing and Winstanley." The Parliamentary commissioners presented Billing as fit to be made a parish and to have those parts of Winstanley next adjoining to be annexed to it.

The Rev. John Wright was ejected in 1662.

The earliest entry in the Billinge parochial register is dated 1st January, 1699.⁴

This chapel was pulled down and rebuilt in 1717-18, when the present chapel was built, which is thus recorded on a mural tablet now in Billinge church :

In the years
of our Lord 1717 and 1718
By the pious and generous benefactions
of the Gentry and Inhabitants of this
chapelry and the charitable contributions
of the Gentry clergy and others of the
adjacent parts of this county

¹ *Inventory of Church Goods*, Part II., Chetham Society, vol. cxiii. pp. 78-80.

² See p. 175.

³ See p. 468.

⁴ *Ex inf.* Rev. H. St. George.

This Chapel was rebuilt
But particularly
By Mr. James Scaesbrick of Liverpool
Merchant who was the first mover
thereto, and who out of his zeal for
God's honour and as a noble foundation
for soe good a work, did out of his own
free will most generously subscribe
and immediately pay down
the sum of two hundred pounds.
Them y^t honour me I will honour saith the Lord.

James Winstanley Warden 1721.¹

The benefice was augmented by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty in 1720 by a grant of £200 to meet a similar sum contributed by Thomas Bankes, Esq.² The annual income before the augmentation was returned as £34 ; of which the sum of £6 *per annum*, which is still paid by the rector of Wigan, was given by bishop Stratford in the Rev. Edward Sedgewick's time, that is between 1699 and 1704.³ The income, which was little more than £70 in 1765, has been considerably increased of late years by repeated grants from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, given out of the produce of the mining leases made over to them in 1848.

On the voidance of Billinge chapel by the death of the Rev. Edward Parr, in 1765, William Bankes, John Gildart, John Blackburne, Humphrey Atherton, John Harper, and Lawrence Pennington, the then trustees and feoffees of the chapel, claimed the patronage as against the rector of Wigan, and on 22nd April, 1765, presented to Edmund, bishop of Chester, the Rev. Glover Moore, B.A., clerk, to be licensed by him to the cure.⁴ This was resisted by the Rev. Shirley Cotes, the rector. The

¹ *Ex inf.* Rev. Howard St. George, incumbent of Billinge.

² *Ibid.* (from "The State of the Proceedings of the Corporation of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty," published in 1721).

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Diocesan Register.

case was tried in the Court of Common Pleas, and the right awarded to the rector of Wigan, who has held the patronage ever since without interruption.

Billinge was made into a new parish by order in council 30th November, 1882.

Within the church are mural monuments to the following persons, viz. :—

On the north side : Agnes, wife of Rev. Richard Carr, who died 14 Feb., 1800, aged 63 ; Rev. Richard Carr, who died 17 Oct. 1813, aged 72, for 46 years incumbent of this chapelry ; also their daughter, Margaret Carr, who died 31 Aug., 1841, aged 72.

On the north-east : Thomas Snape of Billinge, who died 7 May, 1801 ; and his wife, Ann Snape, who died 12 May, 1829.

On the south-east : Meyrick Bankes, who died 1 March, 1827, aged 59.¹

At the east end are two stained glass windows put up in memory of the Rev. Samuel Hall, for 20 years incumbent of Billinge, who resigned in 1833, and was buried at Billinge some 25 or 30 years after.

Outside the church there is a mural tablet to the memory of Humphrey Whalley, for 40 years incumbent of this chapelry, who died in 1748-9 ; and there is a flat stone over the remains of the late Rev. John Bromilow, for 20 years incumbent of this chapelry.

CURATES AND INCUMBENTS OF BILLINGE.

1609—1625 Richard Bolton appears at the bishop's visitation as reader at Billinge in 1609 ;² he gave place to Tempest in 1625.³

¹ This was the Meyrick Holme who took the name of Bankes (see p. 712, note), father of the late Meyrick Bankes, Esq., of Winstanley Hall, and grandfather of Mrs. Bankes, the present owner of Winstanley.

² Canon Raines's *MSS.*

³ Wigan Leger.

- 1625—1626 Edward Tempest, curate of Billinge.
 1626—1627 Peter Travers, curate of Billinge.¹
 1646—1662 John Wright, minister of Billinge.²
 . . . Goulburn.
 1685—1699 Humphrey Tudor.
 1699—1704 Edward Sedgewick.
 1704—1708 John Horobin.
 1708—1749 Humphrey Whalley, licensed to the cure 30 September, 1708;³ died incumbent of Billinge 1749.
 1749—1763 Edward Parr, nominated to the parochial chapel of Billinge 3 April, 1749.⁴
 1763—1776 Thomas Withnell, nominated 29 January, 1763, licensed 19 February, 1767;⁵ died 1776.
 1776—1813 Richard Carr, licensed 15 July, 1776;⁶ died 1813.
 1813—1833 Samuel Hall, licensed 13 November, 1813;⁷ resigned in 1833.
 1833—1853 John Bromilow, licensed 2 September, 1833;⁸ died 1853.
 1853 Howard St. George, licensed to perpetual curacy of Billinge 29 September 1853;⁹ now vicar of Billinge.

HINDLEY (ALL SAINTS).

Mr. John Leyland, the historian of Hindley, in speaking of the chapel at Hindley, says: "The first church (or chapel, as it was originally called) was built in 1641 on land given by Mr. George Green.¹⁰ Funds for the building were raised by subscription and from the sale of pews. An opinion prevails, and has even found its way into the history of the county, that it was

¹ Wigan Leger.

² See p. 754.

³ Chester Diocesan Register.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ Mr. George Green was owner of the adjoining estate of Wood-daggers, which continued in the possession of his family up to a recent period.

built by the Puritans ; but a decree issued by the Duchy Court of Lancaster, in 1669, gives particulars of the early history of the chapel, and authoritatively refutes this opinion.”¹

From this document, which is given in Mr. Leyland's book, it clearly appears that the building was destined from the first to be a place of worship for the Church of England.

During the unsettled period which followed its first erection it fell, like all other churches in the kingdom, for a time into the hands of the nonconformists, who afterwards disputed with the church the right of possession.

The first regular minister of Hindley chapel appears to have been Mr. Thomas Tonge, who at first used the prayers of the church.² But he afterwards embraced the presbyterian religion, and was one of the ministers named in the ordinance of parliament 2nd October, 1646, together with James Bradshaw, the presbyterian rector of Wigan, and Henry Shaw of Holland, as a member of the 4th “classis” of the Lancashire classical presbyteries appointed for the parishes of Warrington, Winwick, Leigh, Wigan, Holland, and Prescott.³

In 1650 the parliamentary commissioners reported that the cure was then served by Mr. William Williamson, an able, godly, and painful minister, of good life and conversation ; and that the chapel was fit to be made a parish church. They recommended that Abram should be annexed to it, together with certain houses and tenements in Aspull and Ince.⁴

Mr. Williamson died at Hindley, and was succeeded by another presbyterian minister, one James Bradshaw, who was ejected in 1662 for refusing to read the prayers of the church. Calamy informs us that this Mr. James Bradshaw was born at Hacking, in the parish of Bolton, of a good family, and very

¹ *Memorials of Hindley*, by John Leyland, of the Grange (printed by Heywood, Manchester, 1873), p. 16.

² Documents relating to the township of Hindley, reprinted from the *Leigh Chronicle Scrap Book*, p. 18.

³ Baines's *Hist. Lancashire*, vol. ii. p. 39.

⁴ See pp. 466, 467.

pious parents. On his mother's side he sprang from the Holmes's, who were the first, he says, on that side of the county to become protestant. He had his grammar learning at the free school at Bolton, and was considered a good critic in it. He was sent to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, but through the influence of his uncle Holmes (a Northamptonshire divine) he left the university without taking any degree. After pursuing his studies for some time under his uncle's tuition, he returned to his native country and settled at Hindley, where he was ordained by the classes, of which Mr. Earl was moderator; and here he continued till he was ejected in 1662. In conjunction with many others he had a concern in the rising of Sir George Booth, with a design to make way for the Restoration; for which, says Calamy, he afterwards had very unsuitable returns. After Bartholomew day, 1662, he suffered some months' imprisonment for preaching, through the malignity of a neighbouring justice of his name; but he was not to be frightened from his Master's service or discouraged in it.¹ When King Charles granted an indulgence, Bradshaw removed to Rainford, a consecrated chapel in Prescott parish, at a greater distance from his old neighbour, and there held an amicable correspondence with several clergy of the established church, who sometimes preached for him, which was one means of his keeping his chapel. The chapel wardens were obliged at the visitation to make their appearance; and he having friends in court, when the question commonly proposed was put to them—"Have you common prayer read yearly in your chapel?" they were able to answer "yes," because once or more in every year some of the neighbouring clergy read the service. The bishop of Chester discharged information against peaceable and sober persons; and so, without being prosecuted, he continued his ministerial service in the chapel aforesaid. Nor had he any molestation except at the time of Monmouth's rebellion, when he and many other worthy

¹ Calamy's *Nonconformists' Memorial*, ed. 1802, vol. ii. p. 364.

persons were imprisoned in Chester Castle. But even there he was kindly treated, and upon Monmouth's defeat was released. He preached frequently when other nonconformist ministers durst not, and met with good acceptance. He had a numerous family of children, and having poor people he was in straitened circumstances, but he bore up with great cheerfulness. He was often employed in arbitrating between neighbours of different persuasions, in which he had such good success as often to prevent vexatious lawsuits, and receive thanks from both sides. He was also frequently concerned in ordinations. He was a hard student and a smart disputant; very lively in his family exercises, and ever zealous for the national interest and the public good. He was one of the Bolton lecturers. As he was once riding several miles to preach he bruised his leg, which for want of due care proved the means of putting to an end his life, A.D. 1703, in the 67th year of his age.¹

After the ejection of Bradshaw the cure of Hindley chapel remained vacant for a few years, until Mr. Dennis was appointed in 1666 or 1667. In the following year, 1668, there was a suit in the Duchy Court between Edward Green, Peter Harrison, William Crook, (the said) William Dennis, and others, plaintiffs, and Ellen Ranicars and others, defendants, with respect to the payment of a sum of £6 left by one John Ranicars for the maintenance of a preaching minister at Hindley chapel, which was decided by a decree of the Chancellor and Council of the Duchy Court, on 12th June, 1699, in favour of the plaintiffs and the minister. In the bill of the plaintiffs, of whom Mr. William Dennis, the then minister of the said chapel, was one, it was shown to the satisfaction of the court that the chapel was built as a chapel of ease to the parish church of Wigan, and intended to be served by an orthodox minister.² And by such orthodox minister or ministers, duly licensed by the bishop, it was served for several years,

¹ Calamy's *Nonconformists' Memorial*. Ebenezer Bradshaw, son of this James Bradshaw, was pastor of a dissenting congregation at Ramsgate, in Kent.

² Leyland's *Memorials of Hindley*, pp. 16-20,

until the year 1690, when during the illness of the minister in charge a nonconformist was put into possession of the chapel by one of the trustees. This gave rise to another lawsuit between one portion of the trustees who supported the church and another portion who supported the nonconformists, the result of which was a final decision in the Duchy Court that the latter had no valid claim to the building.

The history of the chapel at this period will best be gathered from the following evidences, which show with what difficulty it was kept from falling into the hands of the dissenters towards the end of the 17th century :—

I. *The Case of Hindley Chapel* [circa 1694].

This document recites the building of the chapel in 1641, on land given by Mr. George Green, for the ease of the inhabitants of Hindley who were more than three miles distant from the parish church of Wigan, with the consent of the rector, and states that according to the intent of its erection and endowment it was supplied by conforming orthodox divines until the time of the usurpation, but that although it was held by nonconformists during the civil war and Commonwealth periods, the then minister was ejected for nonconformity in 1662, and a conformist minister appointed, who had been duly succeeded by other orthodox ministers ; but that lately, on the death of the last minister, whilst the inhabitants desired an orthodox minister, some of the Dissenting Feoffees, without the consent of the others, succeeded in putting in a nonconformist, who still continues there, whereby those whose ancestors had assisted in the erection of the chapel, and had purchased seats therein, were prevented from having divine service celebrated there, to which by right they were entitled.¹—Witnesses were called to prove that George Greene was a Conformist when he gave the land.

. . . . [Missing.]

¹ Documents relating to the township of Hindley, pp. 9, 10.

After him *Mr. Williamson*, a nonconformist, succeeded, who died there, and after *Mr. Wilkinson*, *Mr. Bradshaw*, a nonconformist, succeeded :

“ But the Chappell being supplied by such men is no more an evidence ag^t it then any other Church or Chappell, but only followed the fate of the Revolution.

But Im’ediately after y^e restoracon *Mr Bradshaw* y^e then minister being Injoynd by y^e Bishop to read prayers &c. according to the usage of the Church of England and refuseing to Conforme was turned out by y^e Bishop.

After this the Chappell for some time stood vacant vizt. from *Mr. Bradshaw’s* goeing out to *Mr. Dennis* coming in (who was the 1st settled minister) 4 or 5 yeares, but in y^t vacancy *Mr. . . .* a noncon. came to preach there, he and his auditory were cited to the Bishop’s Court and as an acknowledgement of their submission p^d their 2^s 6^d a peice.

After this *Mr. Dennis* was ordained by the Bishop and was pr’sented upon the Bishop’s tytle and enjoyed the place for some tyme under his Lycense and afterwards resigned it,—this shewen only because y^e deft^{es} deny y^t ever y^e Bishop granted a Lycense to that place.

Next *Mr. Dennis* *Mr. Croston* succeeded but whether Lycenced or noe we knowe not but proue him con., and resigned in a quarter of a yeare.

After him *Mr. Atherton* a conform. and suppose him Lycenced, he resigned in a short tyme.

After him *Mr. Woods* a con. Suppose him to be Lycensed for y^e Bishop gave him £3 *p. Ann.*, which he continued his . . . The Bishop . . . *Mr. Woods* resigned and *Mr. Robt. Bradshaw* came into the place by the Bishop’s Lycense in 1677 (*vide* the Lycense), and resigned.

Upon his resignation *Mr. Shaw* succeeded. But whether Lycenced or noe we know not, however when the arch Bishop came his visitacon about 7 or 8 yeares agoe *Mr. Shaw* caused the Chappell [to be] Inrolled in the arch Bishop’s Reg.

In July 1690 Mr. Shaw Languishing of the Distemper, whereof he died, and before his death the def^t Hilton Crooke [did] open the Chappell door and placed therein one *Whalley*, a noncon., who still continues."

On the back are various *memoranda*, badly written and now very illegible, being notes made by one of the counsel. From them it appears that it was alleged on behalf of the defendants that *Mr. Fogg* preached the first sermon and did not read prayers. The name of *Tyldesley* occurs, and it is mentioned that *Mr. Tonge* read the prayers.

II. *Depositions of John Prescott, of Hindley, gent., circa 1694.*

John Prescott, of Hindley, co. Lancaster, gent., aged 46 or thereabouts, sworn and examined, saith :—

That Chisenhall Brettargh, deceased, in his lifetime was a contributor towards the erection of Hindley Chapel and the pews therein and that he had a seat or pews therein, and that after his decease Alice Brettargh, his widow, sold the same to Ralph Prescott, deceased, this deponent's late father, and that he with many others (named) had lately declared themselves conformable to the Church of England and to the liturgy thereof, but that since the defendant *Thomas Whalley* got into the possession of the said Chapel they have gone from their own Chapel to hear divine service at the Churches of Wigan, Leigh, Westhoughton, &c., because they cannot have the Book of Common Prayer read at their own Chapel at Hindley. And that Edward Greene, son of George Greene [who gave the land for the Chapel] left £20 towards the maintenance of a minister there, and that when he so left the said money one *Mr. Robert Bradshaw* was then minister of the said Chapel, and was conformable to the Church of England and the liturgy thereof, and preached the funeral sermon of the said Edward Greene.

That he very well remembers *Mr. Dennis* was minister of Hindley Chapel, and that, as he remembers and believes, he was

succeeded by one *Mr. Atherton*, and *Mr. Atherton* was succeeded by *Mr. John Wood*, who was succeeded by *Mr. Richard Croston*, who was succeeded by *Mr. Samuel Shaw*, who was succeeded by *Mr. James Shaw*, all which said persons were conformable to the Church of England, and that the said *Mr. Bradshaw* had a licence from the Bishop to officiate in the said Chapel. And that he, this deponent, believes that others of the said Ministers had likewise licences to preach and officiate in the said Chapel; [though] which of them in particular had such licences he knows not.

That the election of the Minister was not in the Feoffees of the Chapel, but that he was chosen by the inhabitants or the greater part of them, and that when the aforementioned *Mr. James Shaw* was elected he, this deponent, with others, repaired to *Mr. Wroe*, now Doctor of Divinity and Warden of Manchester, but then curate of the parish Church of Wigan, in order to have the said *Mr. Shaw* licensed to the said Chapelry, which said Doctor, after he had discoursed the said *Mr. Shaw*, promised to recommend him to the Bishop for the purpose aforesaid, which said Bishop was also Rector of the parish Church of Wigan.¹

That he very well remembered that *Mr. John Wood*, *Mr. Robert Bradshaw*, and *Mr. James Shaw* during the respective times of their officiating at the said Chapel did frequently go to the parish Church of Wigan at Christmas, Easter, and Whit Sunday to assist the curate there in reading prayers, preaching, and administering the Sacrament. And he further saith that one *Mr. Williamson*, formerly minister of the said Chapel and also the said *Mr. James Shaw* died whilst they were ministers of the said Chapel and are buried in the Chapel yard.

That some short time before the decease of the said *Mr. James Shaw*, the defendant *Mr. Thomas Whalley* got into possession of the said Chapel; but how or in what manner he got into the same he knows not but he remembers that it was on a Lord's

¹ *Mr. Wroe* was bishop Pearson's chaplain as well as his curate at Wigan.

day and in the afternoon of the same day he observed that the lock of the said chapel door had been broken open, by whom he doth not know.

That he doth not know of what persuasion or religion the said Thomas Whalley is, but believes he is either a Presbyterian or Independent, and that not long after the said Mr. Whalley was got into possession of the said Chapel, upon Sunday 5 Nov. 1691, he brought a book of Common Prayer to the said Mr. Whalley and delivered the same in the said Chapel unto him to be by him read in the said Chapel, but he, the said Mr. Whalley, refused to read the same, nor never since read the said book of Common Prayer in the said Chapel as the deponent ever heard of.

That after the death of the said Mr. James Shaw he, this deponent, and several others of the inhabitants of Hindley, went to Wigan to wait upon Dr. Stratford, then and now Lord Bishop of Chester, to request his Lordship to licence *Mr. Bristowe* to succeed the said Mr. Shaw in the chapelry of Hindley, and the said Bishop then promised to licence [him] accordingly if the said Mr. Bristowe would accept thereof, and the said Mr. Bristowe had a license to the same place, as he afterwards told this deponent, and that when he went to officiate at the Chapel the door was locked, and he was refused admission.

And that he was present when Thomas Rigby appeared before the Commissioners for Charitable Uses in the Town Hall at Wigan, to give his evidence in the defendants' behalf, who said that *Mr. Tonge*, who was reported to be the first settled Minister at Hindley Chapel, did read the book of Common Prayer, or used the Prayers of the Church of England in the said church. And that this he well remembers.

(Signed) JO. PRESCOTT.¹

The decree of the Chancellor and Council of the Duchy in

¹ Local Gleanings relating to Lancashire and Cheshire, vol. ii. pp. 146-148. See also Documents relating to the township of Hindley, p. 18.

this suit appears to have been given about the year 1698, when the trustees took measures for the election of a minister, for which they issued the following notice :—

“Whereas by Decree of the right Honorable the Chancellor of the Dutchy Court at Westminster It is ordred and adjudged that the minister who shall from tyme to tyme officiate in Hyndley Chappell shall be elected and nominated in such manner as hath been hitherto used, and that such minister shall be duly qualified for the exercise of the ministers ffunction according to the laws of this Kingdom, and that such minister soe elected ought to be ordained lycensed and qualified according to Law and the Ecclesiastical constitutions of this Kingdom,

And the s^d Decree being Solemnly pronounced in the said Court and since Registered and recorded soe that all persons are obliged to take notice thereof at their perill, And whereas their usual way or manner of Election of a minister hath been by the ffeoffes and inhabitants of the Chappelry of Hindley afors^d, We therefore the ffeoffes or Trustees for the s^d Chappell and the Donations thereunto belonging, Doe hereby give notice to the rest of the ffeoffes and all the Inhabitants that we appoint and desire them to meet together in the s^d Chappel or Chappell-yard upon Thursday the twenty-third day of this instant June, between the hours of nine and twelve of the clock in the afternoon, then and there to elect such minister soe duly qualified, or to adjourn the election to some other convenient day as they shall then and there agree upon. And to the end due notice may come to the knowledge of all persons concerned we desire these presents may be fixed on the s^d Chappell Door on Sunday next and every day afterwards untill the s^d twenty-third day of this Instant June. And that a messenger be sent to the ffeoffes and Inhabitants at their usual places of abode to give them personall notice thereof if they can be conveniently mett with.

Witness our hands this Eighteenth day of June Anno Dñi 1698.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| P. Worthington | James Smith | Jon. Hayes. |
| Jno. Prescott | Thomas Lythgoe | W ^m Taylor |
| Jonathan Thomason | Matthew Seddon | Jon. Duckworth |
| Jno. Ashurst | Jon. Hindley | W ^m Needam |

Henry Leyland | John Ranicars | Gilbert Lythgoe | James Cheetham”¹

This notice was posted and the meeting duly held at the above-mentioned time and place ; and notwithstanding a protest made by Mr. Green, William Hilton, and a few others, to the effect that they already had one Mr. Thomas Whalley for their minister (who had not supplied, or preached in, the chapel for several years) the Feoffees and inhabitants proceeded with the election and chose Mr. John Jackson, a duly ordained and qualified clerk, to be their minister, whom they presented to the bishop of Chester, desiring that he would grant him his licence to supply the cure.²

Owing to these disputes and other causes it was not till the year 1698 that steps were taken for the consecration of the chapel. In that year, however, the Feoffees or Trustees of the chapel and the inhabitants of Hindley presented their petition to the bishop to have it consecrated, as follows :—

“ To the Right Reverend Father in God Nicholas Lord Bishop of Chester,—May it please your Lordship, we, John Ranicars, Church Warden of the Parish Church of Wigan, John Prescott, James Cheetham, Jonathan Thomason, John Marsh, the Feoffees for the land whereon the Chappell of Hindley is built, the said Chappell and Chappell yard thereto belonging, and we, Peter Worthington, John Prescott and James Cheetham, named and constituted Feoffees or Trustees of several pious Devises, Gifts, and Legacies, to y^e use of the said Chappell of Hindley, in the Parish of Wigan and county of Lancaster, and the rest of the inhabitants of the township of Hindley aforesaid, do, with united minds and desires, humbly represent unto your Lordship

¹ Documents relating to the township of Hindley, pp. 5, 6.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 7, 8.

that our said Parish Church of Wigan being three miles distant from the greatest and most populous part of the said Township of Hindley, and George Green, of the said Township, Gentleman, having given and devoted a parcell of land to the end a Chappell might be built upon it, and the residue of the said parcell for a Chappell yard, a Chappell was thereupon erected, and a Chappell yard enclosed and fenced, in the year of our Lord God 1641, with the approbation and consent of Doctor Bridgman, y^e then Lord Bishop of Chester and Rector of Wigan, at the contributions and charges of the Inhabitants of the said Township. That the said Chappell is regularly built, with a Chancell at the East end of it, distinguished from the body of the Chappell, having a communion table placed therein, and in y^e Chappell a reading desk, pulpitt, seates, with other necessities and ornaments. That since the happy restoration of King Charles the Second and of the rights and privileges of the Church, several Benefactions and Legacies have been made and given to the endowment of y^e said Chappell and the use and maintenance of an Orthodox and lawfull Minister of the said Chappell, so that the same do amount to the sum of Twenty Pounds *per annum*, or thereabouts. That some Dissenters from the Church of England (which God Almighty preserve) have (as your Lordship very well knows) by a long and obstinate suit attempted to seize y^e said Chappell and to pervert it and the said gifts and devises from y^e said uses to which they were piously devoted, and had probably succeeded had not your Lordship interposed as well your indefatigable pains as your purse in that cause wherein you have prevailed to have them restored and settled by definitive Decree in the Chancery of the Dutchy of Lancaster; and for your Lordship's affectionate and just vindication of the rights of the Church in general, and of the said Chappell in particular, we have reason to bless God and to hold your name and memory in veneration. And now for the reasons above mentioned we the said John Ranicars, John Prescott, James Cheetham, Peter Worthington, Jonathan Thomason, John Marsh, Feoffees and

Trustees, and we the said inhabitants become humble and unanimous suitors to your Lordship, as God's minister, the Bishop and Ordinary of this Diocese, to accept of this our free-will offering, and to Decree this Chappell and Chappell yard to be severed from all common and prophane uses, and so to sever them ; and also by the Word of God and prayer, and other spirituall and religious duties, to dedicate and consecrate this Chappell to the sacred name of God, and to His Service and worship only, and this Chappell yard to be a Cemetery or place of Christian buriall, wherein our bodies may be laid up until the day of the general Resurrection ; promising that we will thenceforward ever hold this said Chappell as an Holy place, even as God's house, and this said Chappel yard as Holy ground, and use them accordingly ; and that we will from time to time, and ever hereafter, as need shall be, see this Chappell conveniently repaired and decently furnished, and this yard conveniently repaired and fenced, in such sort as a Chappell and Cemetery or burying place ought to be ; and we will (as occasion shall require) procure us some sufficient Clerke, being in Holy Orders, by your Lordship as Ordinary of this place, and by your successors, to be admitted and licensed, and to him to yield competent maintenance, to the end that he may take upon him the cure of the said Chappell, and duly say Divine Service in the same at times appointed, and perform all other such offices and duties as by the Canons of the Church and laws of the realm every Curate is bound to perform." Signed by the above-mentioned Feoffees and 78 of the inhabitants of Hindley.¹

The chapel was accordingly consecrated by the bishop of Chester on the feast of All Saints (1st November), 1698, the history of its foundation in 1641, with the consent of the then rector, being cited in the deed of consecration, which runs as follows :—

"In the Name of God, Amen. Since George Green, of Hindley, in the county of Lancaster and our Diocese of Chester, Gentleman, moved by a pious and religious devotion, has given

¹ *Memorials of Hindley*, pp. 20-23.

and dedicated a parcel of land, or his field, that a Chapel or Oratory should be built in a part of the same, and that the rest of the same be consecrated as a place of burial, or Cemetery, for the use of the inhabitants of the village of Hindley aforesaid, within the Parish of Wigan, in the County of Lancaster and our Diocese of Chester as aforesaid. Since from that time foresaid inhabitants of the said village (the same village, or a part of it, being distant to the inhabitants more than three miles or thereabouts from the Parish Church of Wigan aforesaid) have built, raised up, and enclosed, in the year of our Lord 1641, this Chapel or Oratory (which, with the Chancel, contains in itself, from east to west, 19 rods and four thumbs' breadth in length, and from north to south 8 rods 1 foot and five thumbs' breadth in width, or thereabouts), also the land or surrounding place as a place of burial (with approbation and consent of the Revd. in Christ Father John Bridgeman, at that time Bishop of Chester, and rector of the rectory and Parish Church of Wigan aforesaid, our predecessor), and have decently and suitably provided ornaments [for] the said Chapel or Oratory, with a reading-desk or pulpit, a table adapted for the holy supper, convenient seats, and other necessities. Since from that time many inhabitants of the said village, or the same neighbourhood, led on by a similar pious and religious devotion, have given, left, and devoted legacies, donations, and sums of money to the annual amount of £20, or exceeding, for the endowment of the said Chapel or Oratory, and for the use and support of a Minister lawfully sent, or to be sent, to serve the same curacy; and since prudent and discreet men—John Ranicars, John Prescott, James Cheetham, Jonathan Thomason, and John Marsh, feoffees of the parcel of land or the aforesaid field or close, as also Peter Worthington and the said John Prescott and James Cheetham, feoffees of the said gifts, legacies, and sums of money, setting aside their right, title, and interest in the same, and giving up to us willingly and humbly their right, title, and interest for the following uses, have, together with the inhabitants of the foresaid village of Hindley,

earnestly intreated [us], in so much that we have vouchsafed to separate from common and profane uses, and by our ordinary and Episcopal authority, to dedicate and consecrate this House or Chapel for sacred and divine uses ; as also the place or surrounding portion of land or foresaid field, for sacred uses and as a cemetery or place of burial for the inhabitants of the aforesaid village of Hindley, that the bodies of those dying there may be buried according to the Christian rite. Therefore, We, Nicholas, by Divine permission Bishop of Chester, favouring in this respect the pious and religious wish of the same feoffees and inhabitants, for the consecration of this House or Chapel erected and supplied with all requisites, and also of the aforementioned surrounding portion of land (as before mentioned) on this day, Wednesday, the feast of All Saints, that is to say the first day of November, 1698, instant, and having first humbly called upon the great and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, by our ordinary and Episcopal authority we separate this Chapel or Oratory and land aforementioned surrounding place, from all common and profane use ; and—according to the power vested in us, and we can by the Canons of the Church and the Statutes of this Kingdom of England—we devote, dedicate, and consecrate, to the honour of God, this Chapel or Oratory raised for divine service, the celebration of sacred rites, for ministering the sacraments in the same, likewise for pouring out divine prayers to God, for preaching and expounding in the same the pure and sincere Word of God, for burying the dead inhabitants of the aforesaid village of Hindley, and for the performance of those other things that are done in other chapels ; and we consecrate the said land or surrounding place for a cemetery or place of burial for the bodies of those who die in the said village, that they may be buried according to the Christian rite, and we openly and publicly decree and declare that these same ought to remain in future devoted, dedicated, and consecrated, without, notwithstanding, any prejudice, and the right of the parochial and mother church of Wigan aforesaid being always preserved in all its tenths,

privileges, and ecclesiastical profits whatsoever ; as likewise our rights and those of our successors, and the dignity, jurisdiction and honour of our cathedral church of Chester being always preserved ; provided always that all and each of the priests or ministers, about to take from time to time the cure of souls in the said Chapel, be examined, approved, and admitted by us and our successors, according to the laws and canons of the Kingdom of England ; and that the forementioned feofees and inhabitants, and their successors, maintain and support the same priests or ministers thus examined, approved, and admitted, and that they pay to the same the annual stipend of £20 at least, and that they keep the said Chapel sufficiently repaired, covered, and decently furnished, and the cemetery or place of burial sufficiently enclosed and fenced, without any diminution or defalcation of the ecclesiastical rights, of tenths, oblations, or gifts, belonging by right or custom to the said parochial or mother Church of Wigan aforesaid, or the Rector of the same for the time being. All which and each, as far as lies in our power, we thus decree and confirm for us and our successors by these presents.”¹

The Rev. John Jackson (formerly reader at Wigan) was then licensed to the cure, and since his time there has been no break in the succession of orthodox incumbents. With Mr. Jackson the registers commence, on the 24th June, 1698. He died in 1708, and was succeeded by the Levers, father and son, who held the cure between them for upwards of eighty years.

The Rev. Samuel Lever was nominated by the rector of Wigan. The disputes which had formerly taken place between the Trustees of the chapel and principal inhabitants of Hindley were probably the cause of the patronage being at that time made over by them to the rector for ever,² who has ever since presented to the chapel.

The original chapel stood for 125 years, when it was pulled down, having probably become dilapidated and too small for the

¹ *Memorials of Hindley*, pp. 24-26.

² See pp. 602-605.

wants of the neighbourhood. The present church was erected in its place in 1766, partly by a brief, partly by the sale of pews, and partly by subscriptions. It is a plain brick building, and entirely destitute of architectural beauty.¹ It was restored in 1880, when the old pews were taken down, the pulpit, which obstructed the altar, removed, and the little chancel slightly extended.

The church property is still in the hands of Trustees, the Trust having been renewed in 1776, in 1824, in 1853, and again in 1861.

The Rev. Thomas Lever was the last clergyman who inhabited the old parsonage at the Hollins.² He died in 1789, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Croudson. This gentleman was Head Master of the Wigan Grammar School, an office he retained during the whole time of his 22 years' incumbency. It was his custom to visit the village one day in each week, accompanied by Mr. Ralph Peters, of Platt Bridge. "Regularly as the day came round," says Mr. Leyland, "the two gentlemen might be seen entering the different houses of the parishioners, inquiring after those who had been absent from church the preceding Sunday, and carrying the messages of the Gospel to the sick and to those who from other causes were unable to attend public worship."³

On a Table of Benefactions hung in the church it is stated : "This Chapel *and an house for the curate* were built about the year 1641, by the inhabitants of Hindley, the ground being given by George and Edward Green." A list of subsequent benefactors and benefactions is also given there.

Mr. Leyland gives extracts from the churchwardens' account books, from which we learn that the congregation were lovers of church music in the last century, for there is an item in the accounts of 1768, "paid Mr. Dennil a Fee when consulted relating to the Singers obtaining consent from y^e court to sing Anthems, 5^s;" and in 1774, "expended on the Chapel Warden

¹ *Memorials of Hindley*, pp. 26, 27.

² *Ibid.*, p. 29.

³ *Ibid.*

and Singers in waiting of his Lordship the Bishop of Chester in Petitioning for to sing Anthems 5^s."

At a vestry meeting, 23rd February, 1815, it was resolved to apply to the bishop for a faculty to enable them to enlarge the chapel and to purchase about 40 falls of land to be laid to the burial ground;¹ but this enlargement of the chapel was never carried out. An addition was made to the burial ground in 1837 and 1838. The new parsonage was built in 1810. The site chosen for it was on an estate called Rosbothams, purchased on 23rd October, 1779, from William Clayton of Wigan, gentleman, for £400, in order to augment the living. £200 of this sum was contributed by the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, and the remainder was raised by subscription. The principal contributors to the new parsonage were :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| The Marquis of Stafford | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| The Hon. and Rev. George Bridgeman | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Ralph Peters, Esq. | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Robert Holt Leigh, Esq..... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| John Hopwood, Esq. | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Edward Kearsley, Esq. | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| John Pennington, Esq..... | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| The Rev. George Hendrick | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Queen Anne's Bounty Office | 300 | 0 | 0 |
| Proceeds of Timber, &c. | 52 | 0 | 0 |

This estate is under the entire control of the Incumbent, and is the only part of the church property not vested in the Trustees.

A statement of the income of the church, given in a book kept in the church chest, and dated 30th November, 1699, enables us to compare it with that of more recent times.

¹ *Memorials of Hindley*, pp. 40-41.

“ A true and perfect account of all the Donations belonging to the Chapel of Hindley, together with the Names of the Benefactors, as they stand this 30th day of November, *Anno Domini* 1699 :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|----|
| John Ranicars of Atherton gave the yearly sum of... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Frances Duckenfield, of Abram <i>per annum</i> [being a rent-charge upon lands in Mobberley].. | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Humphrey Platt, of Hindley, the yearly growth or crop of hay grass arising off three-quarters of an acre of land lying within the Low Meadows, amounting to the yearly sum of..... | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Oliver Stopford, of Hindley, <i>per annum</i> [the interest of £10] | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Thomas Aspul, of the same, <i>per annum</i> [ditto]..... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Edward Green, of the same, <i>per annum</i> | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| William Sale, sen., of the same, <i>per annum</i> [the interest of £3] | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| William Sale, jun., of the same, <i>per annum</i> [ditto] ... | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Randal Collier, of the same, in land in present possession to the clear yearly value of | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| More land in reversion, not yet fallen, to the clear yearly value of | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Mary Collier, relict of the said Randal, <i>per annum</i> [the interest of a legacy of £50]..... | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Thomas Crook, of Abram, gent., <i>per annum</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| The improvement of arrears [being investments made by the Feoffees during several vacancies].. | 6 | 16 | 0 |
| Mr. Jno. Prescott, a rent charge, <i>per annum</i> | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Mr. [Richard] Wells [of Wigan] legacy of £100 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Thos. Lythgoe's legacy, <i>per annum</i> [for a sermon every St. Thomas's day] | 1 | 0 | 0 |

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Particulars of the yearly Income of the Parochial Chapelry of Hindley in 1873 :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Sundry small farms | 69 | 8 | 0 |
| Do. Chief rents | 59 | 18 | 2 |
| Stipulated rent of mines under the Trust Lands leased by the Trustees to the Wigan Coal and Iron Company Limited, at £200 <i>per annum</i> —one-fourth of this sum being paid to the Incumbent, and the remaining three-fourths being invested. The interest on the sums invested (£1,981 4s. 8d.) is also paid to the Incumbent... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Wigan Coal and Iron Company, for Coal Way-leave | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Interest on proceeds of mines (£1,981 4s. 8d.) invested in 3 <i>per cent.</i> Consols | 64 | 5 | 0 |
| Interest on balance of mine rents (£327 4s. 8d.) lying in the Bank of Messrs. Woodcock, Sons, and Eckersley, about | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £258 | 11 | 2 |

The above are the gross sums paid to the Trustees, and are subject to property tax and charges for repairs.

The following sums are paid to the Incumbent direct :—

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| Rent-charge, devised by John Ranicars, on Stone House Farm, in Hindley..... | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Rent-charge, devised by Mrs. Frances Duckenfield, on lands in Mobberly, Cheshire | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Rent-charge, devised by Thomas Crook, on lands in Alston and Whittingham | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| The Bridgewater Trustees pay Humphrey Platt's bequest of Hay-grass, on land growing in the Lowe Meadows..... | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Pew Rents, which William Bavington, the collector for many years past, states produced during Mr. | | | |

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| Jones's Incumbency in March of each year £12 16s., and in September of each year, £3 12s., together £16 8s.—produced only in September, 1872, £2 18s.; and in March, 1873, £7 2s. 6d. | 10 | 0 | 6 |
| The value of the Parsonage or Vicarage House is estimated at | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| The land surrounding the Parsonage or Vicarage House is leased to Mr. Edward Grime for a term of six years, from May 12th, 1873—the first year's rent to be £30, the remaining five years to be £32 10s. | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| The surplice fees are estimated at..... | 70 | 0 | 0 |
| The grant from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners | 104 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £507 | 16 | 8 |

The church contains mural monuments to the following persons :—

Ralph Peters, of Platbridge in the parish of Wigan, Esquire, who died in 1807, aged 78, and Elizabeth his wife, with a shield of arms above bearing : *gules, on a bend between two escallops or two cinquefoils azure (or sable), on a chief or a rose gules, impaling azure (or sable) on a bend three stars gules.*

R. Peters, of Platbridge, Esquire, who died in 1838, aged 63, with a shield of arms bearing : Peters as before, impaling *a fesse nebulée between three stars.*

Lieut.-Col. Nathaniel Eckersley, son of James and Mary Eckersley of Hindley, who died in 1837, aged 58.

John Leyland, of Hindley, who died in 1811, aged 83.

William Leyland, of Hindley, who died in 1830, aged 56, and Catherine his wife (daughter of Matthew and Isabel Seddon).

Matthew Seddon, of Hindley, who died in 1804, aged 70; and Isabel his wife (daughter of Richard and Catherine Battersby).

Rev. John Croudson, Minister of Hindley Chapelry and Head Master of the Grammar School, Wigan, who died in 1810, aged 62, and Mary his wife.

William Croudson, of Wigan, eldest son of the Rev. John Croudson, who died in 1854, aged 70, and his two wives, Martha, who died in 1814, aged 26, and Mary Ann, who died in 1826, aged 28: also their only son, William Mellor, who died in 1840, aged 16; and Elizabeth Harding, sister of Mary Ann Croudson, who died in 1859, aged 73.

Richard Pennington, Esquire (a native of this parish), who died 10th July, 1887, with a shield of arms bearing: *three falcons two and one*.

Henry Francis, 3rd son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Eckersley of Standish Hall, Lieutenant in Prince Albert's Somersetshire Light Infantry, killed at Kyettha [Burmah] 13th November, 1886, in the 24th year of his age.

When the church of St. Peter in Hindley was built and made into a new parish, in 1866, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners appear to have recognised the ancient chapelry of Hindley as a parish, for they assigned a district to the new church of St. Peter without reference to the mother church of Wigan. But a legal district was afterwards assigned to the original church of All Saints, Hindley, whereby the incumbent became vicar of Hindley.

MINISTERS, CURATES, INCUMBENTS, AND VICARS OF ALL SAINTS, HINDLEY.

The names of the first curates are not recorded.

- | | |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1646 | Thomas Tonge. |
| 1650 | William Williamson, a nonconformist, in the time of the commonwealth, who died at Hindley, is the first whose name is recorded on unquestionable evidence as being in possession of the chapel. |
| 1662 | James Bradshaw, nonconformist, was ejected in 1662. |

- 1668 William Dennis, an orthodox minister, was licensed by the bishop to the cure.
Richard Croston, resigned within a few months of his appointment.
. . . Atherton, resigned within a short time after his appointment.
John Woods, resigned in 1677.
- 1677 Robert Bradshaw, licensed by the bishop in 1677.
Samuel Shaw.
- c. 1680—1690 James Shaw ; died in 1690.
- 1690—1694 [Thomas Whalley, a nonconformist, who was put into possession of the chapel by one of the trustees illegally held it for several years.]
- 1698—1708 John Jackson ; died 1708.
- 1708—1753 Samuel Lever ; nominated by the rector of Wigan and licensed by the bishop in 1708 ; resigned in 1753.
- 1753—1789 Thomas Lever ; licensed 26th April, 1753 ; died 1789.
- 1789—1811 John Croudson ; licensed 24th September, 1789 ; died 1811.
- 1811—1811 Edward Grime ;¹ licensed 4th April, 1811 ; resigned soon afterwards.
- 1811—1830 George Henderick ; licensed Sept. 1811 ; died 1830.
- 1830—1853 Edward Hill ; licensed 23rd November, 1830 ; died 1853.
- 1853—1863 Peter Jones ; licensed 30th July, 1853 ; resigned 1863.
- 1863—1878 Charles Hutchinson Newbold ; licensed 6th November, 1863 ; died 1878.
- 1878—1882 Charles Girdlestone Hopkinson ;² nominated 18th

¹ Rev. Edward Grime was preferred in 1811 to the rectory of Marston Bigott, in the county of Somerset.

² He had been placed by the bishop of Chester as curate in charge some years previously, when the benefice was sequestrated. He became vicar of Alvanley, Cheshire, in 1882.

May and licensed 31st May, 1878 ; the benefice became void in 1882 by his removal to Alvanley.

1882—1885 Walker Geary Knocker ; nominated 30th March, 1882 ; became rector of Oughtrington, Cheshire, 1885.

1886 Charles John Buckmaster ; licensed 16th February, 1886 ; now vicar of Hindley.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HINDLEY.

The church of St. Peter was consecrated 15th October, 1866, and the patronage vested in Trustees. A district was assigned to it by order in council 8th November, 1866, when it was made into a new parish.

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners made the following grants towards the endowment, in each case to meet similar amounts raised from other sources, viz. :—

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|---|-------------------|
| 9th May, 1867 | £6 | 2 | 0 | <i>per annum.</i> |
| 14th March, 1872 | 6 | 13 | 4 | „ „ |
| 18th March, 1875 .. | 43 | 6 | 8 | „ „ |
| 9th May, 1878 | 5 | 0 | 0 | „ „ |
| 9th May, 1884 | 123 | 0 | 0 | „ „ |

VICARS OF ST. PETER'S.

1867—1874 Peter Jones ; licensed 1st February, 1867 ; sent in his resignation to the bishop 22 June, accepted 7th July, 1874.

1874—1877 Thomas Oliver ; licensed 31st October, 1874 ; became vicar of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Liverpool, 1877 ; is now vicar of Garston, Aigburth, Liverpool.

1878 Charles Frederick Holt ; licensed 1st January, 1878 ; now vicar.

ST. GEORGE'S, WIGAN.

The oldest chapel of ease in the parish of Wigan, after those of Upholland, Billinge, and Hindley, is that of St. George in Wigan, which was consecrated 21st September, 1781. The patronage for the first three years after its consecration was vested in James Hodson, William Clayton, Robert Morris, George Eccles, Stephen Ellis, Samuel Bold, Peter Latham, Thomas Wigan, and William Barrow, all of Wigan, who presented the first incumbent, after which it was to revert to the rector. Its district was not assigned to it until 3rd April, 1843.

An order in council, dated 29th December, 1853, authorised the incumbent to perform marriages in the chapel and to receive the fees. And an order in council dated 27th July, 1863, confirmed the scheme of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for a grant from their funds of £146 *per annum* to the incumbent. It became a new parish under Lord Blandford's act on the voidance of the rectory of Wigan by Sir Henry J. Gunning in 1864.

The font now in St. George's was formerly in the parish church, from which it was removed at the time of the restoration. Round the pedestal are inscribed the words, "H. Fleetwood C.P. 1707," and on the rim at the top, "This font was presented to St. George's church Wigan by Tho^s and Elizth Grimshawe 14 Sep^r A.D. 1854."¹

INCUMBENTS OF ST. GEORGE'S.

1783—1812 John Braithwaite; licensed 12th July, 1783; died 1812.

1813—1821 William Marsden, B.D.; nominated 10th December, 1812,² and licensed 4th January, 1813; resigned in 1821.

1821—1860 Benjamin Powell; licensed 24th September, 1821.

¹ See pp. 601, 688, where the font is erroneously said to have been made in bishop Stratford's time, whereas it was made in rector Finch's time.

² William Simpson had been nominated 16th November, 1812, but was probably not licensed, as there is no record of it in the diocesan register.

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1860—1863 Alexander Smith, B.A. ; licensed 20th April, 1860 ; resigned 1863.

1863 Philip Frost John Bird Hains ; licensed 24th December, 1863 ; now vicar of St. George's.

ST. JOHN'S, PEMBERTON.

The church of St. John, Pemberton, was consecrated 26th September, 1832,¹ as a chapel of ease to the parish church of Wigan, with a burial ground attached to it. A district was assigned to it 1st February, 1838,² consisting of the township of Pemberton and part of the township of Orrell.³ The patronage is vested in the rector, who contributes £50 *per annum* towards the endowment. The church was built after designs by Mr. Rickman of Birmingham, and is remarkable for its great width of span, as a single nave without side aisles, being built to accommodate 1,586 persons, including 1,038 free seats appropriated to the use of the poor.

On 5th November, 1840, the governors of Queen Anne's

¹ Chester Diocesan Register.

² London Gazette.

³ In 1841 a dispute arose between the authorities of the ecclesiastical districts of Upholland and Pemberton as to the liability of the ratepayers in the township of Orrell to pay church rates. It was *assumed* that a district had been assigned to Upholland including the township of Orrell, which township had contributed to the support of Upholland chapel from time out of mind ; and the landowners and ratepayers of Orrell had not been consulted as to the formation of the new district. It was contended on the part of Upholland that they were still liable for the maintenance of Upholland chapel, and a church rate had accordingly been levied upon them for the purpose. On the part of Pemberton it was contended that, by the acts under which the new district was formed, all the inhabitants within the district were liable to contribute towards the maintenance of their church. The case was submitted to Dr. Phillimore, who gave it as his opinion that the consent of the landowners and ratepayers to the formation of the new district was not required by law ; that the new district had acquired the right to the support of all its inhabitants ; but that the churchwardens of Upholland had acted correctly in levying the rate as heretofore on the inhabitants of Orrell, because it is provided by the 71st section of 58 Geo. III. c. 45 that every district shall remain subject for twenty years to the repairs of the original parish church, and is to be deemed part of such parish for all purposes of such repairs.

Bounty made a grant of £200 to the chapelry of Pemberton, to meet £400 contributed from the locality.¹ This is probably included in the sum of £73 *per annum* now paid from Queen Anne's Bounty office. The rest of the vicar's income, with the exception of the rector's £50, is paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

There are five buildings used for day schools on the week days, but exclusively for divine service on Sundays, in addition to the church.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. JOHN'S, PEMBERTON.

| NAMES. | WHEN LICENSED. |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1832-1849 Joshua Paley, M.A. | 26th September, 1832. |
| 1849-1872 Arthur Coates, M.A. | 22nd December, 1849. |
| 1872-1874 Clement Leigh Coldwell, ² M.A. | 31st May, 1872 ; cause of vacancy, resignation of Coates. |
| 1874-1881 John Leach, ³ M.A. | 13th June, 1874 ; cause of vacancy, resignation of Coldwell. |
| 1881-1887 Harry Mitchell, ⁴ M.A. | 27th June, 1881 ; cause of vacancy, Cession of Leach. |
| 1887 Edward Francis Forrest, M.A. | 2nd April, 1887 ; cause of vacancy, Cession of Mitchell. |

SAINT DAVID'S, HAIGH-CUM-ASPULL.

The church of St. David, Haigh, was consecrated 28th November, 1833, as a chapel of ease to the parish church of Wigan. The townships of Haigh and Aspull were assigned to it for an ecclesiastical district by an order in council of 1st February, 1838. The patronage is vested in the rector. There is no glebe house. The incumbent lives in a house provided for him rent free by the Earl of Crawford, who also pays for an assistant curate. An order in council of 9th August, 1866,

¹ Case for Dr. Phillimore's opinion.

² Now in charge of the Episcopal chapel at Stirling, N.B.

³ Became vicar of Kirkby, Lancashire, 1881.

⁴ Became vicar of Prescott, Lancashire, 1886.

confirmed a grant from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of £112 *per annum* towards the endowment of the church. The income paid through the Ecclesiastical Commissioners is £180 *per annum*, and £14 *per annum* is paid by the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty; the rest of the income is made up by fees and the weekly offertory.¹

There are no mural monuments in the church.

In this new parish there is also an iron church at New Springs, dedicated to St. John Baptist, licensed by the bishop, and containing 500 sittings.

INCUMBENTS OF HAIGH-CUM-ASPULL.

- 1833—1838 Hugh Evans; licensed 28th November, 1833.
 1838—1863 John Thomas Browne; licensed 17th December, 1838; died 1863.
 1863—1870 John Aldworth; licensed 20th February, 1863; died 1870.
 1870—1886 William Bryan Bryan; licensed 18th November, 1870; died 1886.
 1886 Charles Henry James; nominated 23rd May, 1886; now vicar of Haigh-cum-Aspull.

SAINT ELIZABETH'S, ASPULL.

The church of St. Elizabeth, Aspull, was consecrated by the bishop of Liverpool 1st November, 1882. A district in the township of Aspull, taken out of the new parish of Haigh-cum-Aspull, was assigned to it by an order in council of 20th April, 1883, when it became a new parish. There is no glebe house. The incumbent lives in a house provided for him rent free by Roger Leigh of Hindley Hall, Esq., who built the church. There is also a licensed chapel in the parish, known as Hindley Hall Chapel. The patronage is vested in trustees.

¹ Part of the income was originally derived from pew rents, but these were abolished in 1888, and the amount received from them is made up from the offertory.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. ELIZABETH'S, ASPULL.

1883—1886 Robert Walmsley; licensed 1883; died 1886.

1886 George Frederick Grundy; licensed 1886; now perpetual curate or vicar.

SAINT JOHN'S, ABRAM.

The church of St. John, Abram, with a burial ground attached, was consecrated 9th June, 1838, as a chapel of ease to Wigan parish church, and had a district assigned to it 3rd April, 1843. The patronage is vested in the rector, by whom it was originally endowed with £30 *per annum*. The sum of £20 *per annum* from the rector has since been added to the original endowment in 1876, and a glebe house was built in 1875-6. The total income was returned in 1874 at £137 5s. 7½*d*. Like all the other chapels of ease in the parish of Wigan which had districts assigned to them before February, 1864, it became a new parish under Lord Blandford's Act on the resignation of the late rector in that month.

There are two mural monuments in the church: One, in memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Bevan, of Laurel House, Lowton, who gave £500 towards the building, and £200 towards the endowment of this church. She died 30th December, 1833, aged 81. The other:

In memory of

Adam Chadwick, Esq^{re}

Who died and was buried at Heavitree, near Exeter,

In the year 1834, in the 56th year of his age.

Also of

Adam Chadwick, Esq^{re} M.D.

Son of the above, who died at his residence

Heathfield, Greenheys, near Manchester,

In the year 1871, in the 68th year of his age,

and was buried in the cemetery at Ardwick.

This tablet

is erected to the memory of her father and brother

By Frances Elizabeth Chadwick.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. JOHN'S, ABRAM.

- 1839—1875 John Jones Dixon ; licensed 8th July, 1839 (the day after his ordination as deacon), to the stipendiary curacy of Wigan, but he seems to have acted from this time as curate in sole charge of Abram, and no fresh licence was afterwards given him. He resigned in June, 1875.
- 1875—1876 Robert Bevan Hull ;¹ licensed 15th July, 1875.
- 1877—1878 James Bailey ;² licensed 10th January, 1877.
- 1878 Hewett Linton ; licensed 3rd December, 1878, and now vicar of Abram.

ST. CATHERINE'S, WIGAN.

The church of St. Catherine, Wigan, was consecrated 6th June, 1841, as a chapel of ease to the parish church, with a burial ground attached to it. An assignment of pew rents towards the endowment was made by the bishop of Chester 13th December, 1842. An ecclesiastical district was assigned to it by an order in council of 3rd April, 1843, consisting of a portion of Wigan, and the township of Ince. A grant of £50 *per annum* towards the endowment was made by the rector of Wigan 19th July, 1845 ; and a grant of £32 *per annum* by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners 9th January, 1863. There was an order in council, confirming a scheme for payment of £162 *per annum* by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, 10th June, 1864. There is a glebe house, in which the vicar resides. The patronage is vested in the rector. St. Catherine's became a new parish in 1864.

There is only one mural monument in the church, which has lately been put up in memory of John Horridge, who was born 15th April, 1884, and died 15th July, 1888.

¹ Mr. Hull became vicar of Highley, Salop, in 1876 ; he is now vicar of Northampton and honorary canon of Peterborough.

² Mr. Bailey resigned the benefice of Abram and became one of the assistant curates at the parish church, Wigan, in November, 1878 ; he died in 1880.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. CATHERINE'S.

- 1841—1858 William Coombs; licensed 17th June, 1841; resigned in 1858.¹
1858—1863 William Thomas Whitehead; nominated 19th May, 1858; resigned 1863.
1863—1876 Thomas Higham; licensed 7th February, 1863; vacated the benefice by his induction to the perpetual curacy of Bishop Thornton in 1876.
1876 Edwin Alexander Dury; licensed 5th September, 1876; now vicar of St. Catherine's.

INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD—CHRIST CHURCH.

The township of Ince was taken out of the ecclesiastical district of St. Catherine's, Wigan, by order in council of 4th November, 1863, and formed into a Peel Parish. The church (Christ church) was afterwards consecrated, 4th March, 1864. The patronage is vested in Simeon's Trustees.

VICAR OF INCE.

- 1863 Thomas Francis Fergie, honorary canon of Liverpool, and now vicar, is the first incumbent.

ST. MARY'S, INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD.

The church of St. Mary, Lower Ince, was consecrated 6th December, 1887, and had a district assigned to it from the new parish of Ince by order in council gazetted 10th February, 1888. The patronage is vested in Simeon's Trustees.

INCUMBENT.

1887 Thomas Taylor.

¹ Rev. W. Coombs became chaplain of Featherstone Castle, Northumberland, 1858, and was afterwards vicar of Douglas, Lancashire.

SAINT THOMAS'S, WIGAN.

The church of St. Thomas, Wigan, was consecrated 1st October, 1851, as a chapel of ease to the parish church of Wigan, and had a district assigned to it by order in council of 11th February, 1852. The patronage is vested in the rector, who contributes £50 *per annum* towards the endowment. There is no glebe house, but a sum of £750 was granted by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the purpose of building one, to meet a similar sum subscribed by others. It became a new parish on the last voidance of the rectory in 1864.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. THOMAS'S, WIGAN.

1851—1854 Peter King Simmons; licensed 8th December, 1851.

1854 James Cronshaw; licensed 25th March, 1854, on the resignation of Simmons, and now vicar of St. Thomas's, Wigan.

SAINT JAMES'S, WIGAN.

The church of St. James, Wigan, was consecrated by the bishop of Chester 15th September, 1866, an ecclesiastical district having been previously constituted, from the ecclesiastical districts of St. Thomas, Wigan, and St. John, Pemberton, by order in council gazetted on 15th May, 1863. The church was built by Nathaniel Eckersley, Esq. It has a glebe house, in which the incumbent resides. The patronage is vested in Nathaniel Eckersley, Esq.

There are two brass memorials in the church, of which the one records that the church was erected by the Founder to the honour and glory of God, and in memory of his Father, Mother, and Brother, James Eckersley, born November 1781, died February 1850; Elizabeth his wife, born November 1782, died December 1847; James their son, born August 1809, died

August 1856. The second was put up in 1877 in memory of Henry Francis Eckersley, Lieutenant Prince Albert's Light Infantry, who was killed in action while gallantly leading the advance at Kyettha, near Ningyan, Burmah, on 13th November, 1886. He was born 20th April, 1863.

INCUMBENT OF ST. JAMES'S, WIGAN.

1863 Henry Charles Bull ; licensed 4th April, 1864, and now vicar of St. James's.

SAINT ANDREW'S, WIGAN.

The church of St. Andrew, Wigan, was consecrated by the bishop of Liverpool 1st August, 1882, an ecclesiastical district having previously been constituted by order in council gazetted 24th March, 1871. The patronage is vested in the rector, who contributes £57 10s. towards the endowment.¹ There is no glebe house.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. ANDREW'S, WIGAN.

1871—1878 Alfred Arthur Kaye Legge ; licensed 29th April, 1871 ; resigned 3rd August, 1878.

1878 William Arthur Wickham ; licensed 2nd October, 1878, and now incumbent of St. Andrew's.

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, DALTON.

The original church of St. Michael and All Angels, Dalton, was consecrated 16th March, 1872, an ecclesiastical district having previously been formed by order in council, gazetted 29th November, 1870.² The patronage is vested in Mr. Prescott of Dalton Grange, who built the church. A larger church was

¹ See p. 680 for further particulars, where it is erroneously stated that the consecration took place on 31st July.

² See p. 680.

subsequently built on an adjoining plot of ground, which was consecrated 29th September, 1877, and the older church, known as the tithe-barn church, afterwards pulled down. There is no glebe house, but the incumbent resides in a house provided for him rent free by the Earl of Lathom.

INCUMBENTS OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, DALTON.

1870—1878 Arthur Henry Webb ; appointed 1870.¹

1879 John Crofts ; licensed 22nd February, 1879, and now incumbent of Dalton.

SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WIGAN.

The church of St. Michael and All Angels, Wigan, was consecrated by the bishop of Chester 25th April, 1878, and remained for three years a chapel of ease to the parish church, to be served by the rector. It was formed into a parochial chapelry by an order in council of 1st April, 1881, the endowment being permanently provided for by a settlement of over £300 *per annum* by the rector, partly in rectorial tithe commutation rents and partly by a nett annual payment, the greater portion of which is temporarily paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.² There is no glebe house. The patronage is vested in the rector.

INCUMBENT OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, WIGAN.

1881 Roland George Matthew ; became incumbent in 1881.

EARLY PATRONS OF WIGAN CHURCH.

A history of the church and manor of Wigan would be incomplete without some account of the early patrons of the church, who were also chief lords of the manor.

¹ Became incumbent of St. Paul's, Crewe (*alias* Monk's Coppenhall), in the county of Chester, 1879 ; Hon. Canon of Chester, 1888.

² See pp. 681, 683.

It is probable that in Saxon times the manor of Wigan within the extensive district or hundred of Newton was held by the parsons in chieftly, and that after the Conquest a mesne lord was interposed between the parson and the great Earl Roger de Poitou, to whom the King gave the land between the Ribble and the Mersey.

The various manors in this territory were subinfeudated by him to several Norman barons ; and Wigan, being part of the barony of Newton or Makerfield, was held by the parsons under the lords of that fee who assumed the patronage of the church.

According to Baines, who quotes from Kennion's *MS.*, the first of these was Warin Banastre, who held under Roger de Poitou ; but this statement is not supported by evidence, and it is very doubtful whether such a person ever existed.¹ It is on record, however, that ROBERT son of ROBERT BANASTRE held this fee in the time of Henry II. ; that Henry de Laci, who flourished in the reigns of Stephen and Henry II., granted to him "*Walatun* [Walton-le-Dale] *cum pertinentiis Melver* [Mellor] *et Heccleshul* [Eccleshill] *et Haravuda* [Little Harwood] *et duas Derewentas* [Over and Lower Darwen] *pro servitio unius militis*;" that his father, ROBERT BANASTRE, came into England at the Conquest, and held many lands, amongst others *Prestatyn*, in that part of North Wales called Englefield ; that the tower which his son Robert Banastre built there was destroyed when Owen Gwynedd, prince of North Wales, recovered that country from the English in 1167 ; and that Robert Banastre at that time brought all his people into Lancashire,² where in the time of Edward I. they were still called "las Westroys." This last

¹ This, with what follows, must be taken as a correction, so far as it differs, of the statement on page 2.

² *Visitation of Lancashire and a Part of Cheshire* A.D. 1533, edited by William Langton (Chetham Society, vol. xcvi.), pp. 15, 16. See also *Rot. Parl.*, vol. i. p. 2 a. The site of the castle built at Prestatyn by the Banastres is still marked by a mound in a meadow below the mill there (*Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. i. p. 337 ; see also Pennant's *Tour to Snowdon*, p. 5).

Robert Banastre had three sons—Richard, who died without issue before 1204; Warin, who married Sarah ———, but died without issue; and Thurstan, who finally succeeded. THURSTAN BANASTRE, in 1213, 15 John, gave 500 marks to the King, to have an inquisition whether the land of Makerfield should descend to him on the part of Robert his father and Warin his brother. He married Cecilia ——— and died in 1218 or 1219, leaving a son, Robert, who succeeded him, and probably another son, Thurstan, the ancestor of the Banastres of the Bank, to whom his brother gave his lands in Newton, in the hundred of Wirrall, Cheshire.

ROBERT BANASTRE was one year old at the time of his father's death. Philip de Orreby, Justice of Chester, made a fine of 500 marks to have the wardship and marriage of this Robert Banastre, which Robert died before 27th February, 1242, having married Clementia ——— (who survived him). He had two sons—John, who died in his infancy about 26 Hen. III., and Robert, who succeeded him.

ROBERT BANASTRE, the fourth of that name, and fourth in descent from the first Robert Banastre who came into England at the Conquest, had a charter of free warren in Walton and Newton in 41 Hen. III. (1256–7), and in the following year he obtained a grant for a market and fair in his manor of Newton.¹ He claimed Prestatyn in 6 Edw. I., and in his petition to the King in parliament he gives his descent, with an account of his family.² By deed dated on 13th August, 11 Edw. I. (1283), calling himself Sir Robert Banastre, knight, he gives to the Abbot and convent called “Locus Benedictus” of Stanlawe ten acres of land in his manor of Walton.³ He was living in 13 Edw. I. and dead before 21 Edw. I. He married Alice,

¹ *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. i. p. 342.

² *Rot. Parl.*, vol i. p. 2 a.

³ *Coucher Book of Whalley* (Chetham Society, vol. x.), pp. 113–116, edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq., who gives in a note (p. 113 *et seq.*) an account of the Banastre family, which is chiefly derived from the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, vol. i. pp. 334–346.

daughter of Gilbert Woodcock, and had, with a daughter, Clementia, married to William de Lea (to whom he gave in frank marriage the manor of Mollington Banastre, in Cheshire), a son, James Banastre,¹ who married Elena, daughter of William le Botiler, baron of Warrington, and, dying in his father's lifetime, left a daughter and heir, ALICE, who succeeded to her grandfather's estates. In 20 Edw. I. this Alice Banastre was in ward to Sir John Byron and espoused to his son John. She was then stated to be under age, and, being at that time very young, the marriage was probably never consummated, for shortly after this date she was given in marriage to John de Langton,² son of Robert de Langton of West Langton, in the county of Leicester, and brother of John de Langton, bishop of Chichester and Chancellor in the reigns of Edward I. and Edward II. In 29 Edw. I. John de Langton, on the application of his brother, the Chancellor, had a charter for markets, fairs, and free warren in his manors of Newton and Walton-le-Dale, and of free warren in Lawton and Goldborne. Alice was alive in 32 Edw. I., as is shown by a fine levied of the manors of Walton and Newton and of the advowson of Wigan in that year, being a settlement on the heirs of John and Alice, with remainder to the right heirs of Alice; but she died before 3 Edw. II. Her husband was still alive in 18 Edw. II.

Their son Robert de Langton, who had licence to embattle his mansion of Newton-in-Makerfield in 1341, presented his

¹ The arms of Banastre were originally *two water bougets joinant in fesse*, as given on the seal of Warin Banastre. His son, Robert Banastre, *temp.* Hen. III., assumed for his arms *gules three cheverons (or cheveronels) argent*, but retained the *water bougets* as badges, one on either side of his shield, in which manner they are depicted on his seal. Mr. Langton supposes this coat to have been taken from the Orrebys, his mother having probably been one of that family. This shield, without the bougets, was afterwards borne by the Banastres, together with *argent a cross patonce sable*, and passed on by them to their descendants, the Langtons (see *Vis. of Lanc.*, Chetham Soc., vol. xcvi., pp. 19 *et seq.*, and Hill's *Hist. of Langton*, p. 19).

² She is mentioned as his wife at the inquest held on the death of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, 25 Edw. I.

brother John, or Ivo, de Langton to the church of Wigan in 1334, and again in 1359 Richard de Langton, probably his son, was instituted to the benefice on his presentation, though the right of patronage had been challenged in the meantime by King Edward III., who presented his clerk, John de Winwick, in 1350. Sir Robert de Langton died in 1361. His eldest son, John de Langton, predeceased him, leaving an elder son, Ralph, who should have been heir to his grandfather ; but Sir Robert divided his estates between him and his own younger son, Robert de Langton. Robert inherited the manors of Hindley¹ in Lancashire, Hendon in Middlesex, and the paternal estates in Leicestershire ; while Ralph de Langton, the heir of line, retained the barony of Newton, with the advowson of Wigan church, and the manor of Walton-le-Dale, which last became the chief seat of the family until it was passed away to the Hoghtons by the last Sir Thomas Langton, who died in 1605.²

The direct descendants of Ralph de Langton in the male line, barons of Newton, retained the advowson of Wigan church for upwards of 300 years, until the death of Sir Thomas Langton in 1605, when it passed with the remnant of the Langton inheritance to Sir Richard Fleetwood of Calwich, under a settlement made by the last Sir Thomas's grandfather, Sir Thomas Langton. This last-mentioned Sir Thomas Langton, who died in 1569, settled it, on failure of the issue male of his first marriage, on the issue of his eldest daughter Johanna, or Joan, wife of John Fleetwood of Penwortham, whose grandson Richard, the first baronet of that family, succeeded his cousin, Sir Thomas Langton, as heir of entail under the above-mentioned settlement, which was made in 1558.

¹ Lowe Hall, the manor house of Hindley, remained with this branch of the Langtons until a comparatively recent date.

² Sir Thomas Langton was wounded in a faction fight at Lea Hall with Thomas Hoghton, Esq., and his retainers. Mr. Hoghton was killed in the fray, and Langton is believed to have ceded the manor of Walton to the Hoghtons in condonation of that mischance.

Joan Fleetwood was the daughter of Sir Thomas Langton by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Stanley, Lord Monteagle, and sister of Thomas Stanley, bishop of Man, and rector of Wigan from 1558 to 1569. Sir Thomas married, secondly, Anne, daughter of Thomas Talbot, a younger brother of John Talbot of Salebury, by whom he had issue, but the issue of this marriage were carefully excluded by his settlement from succeeding to the inheritance. He was succeeded by his grandson, Sir Thomas Langton, son of his son Leonard who predeceased him, on whose death without issue Fleetwood obtained all that remained of the inheritance. The advowson of Wigan passed from the Fleetwoods to Sir John Hotham, and from Hotham to Bridgeman, as has been already shown.¹ A fuller account of the Langtons, barons of Newton, is given in Hill's *History of Langton*, to which I would refer my readers, as also to the *Visitation of Lancashire and a Part of Cheshire*, with notes, edited by William Langton, Esq., for the Chetham Society, of whose series it forms vol. xcvi. ; to vol. li. of the Chetham series, containing the will of Sir Thomas Langton, with copious notes ; and vol. xcix. of the same publication, being *Lancashire Inquisitions*, with notes by William Langton, Esq. Mr. Abram, in his *History of Blackburn*, also gives a good account of the family, pp. 705 to 711.

¹ See page 483.

ERRATA AND ADDENDA.

Page 1. Transpose the numerals referring to the notes.

Note 1, line 2. *For* "Abraen" *read* "Abram."

Page 4, line 16. After "country priest," insert a note giving as the authority for this statement *Gesta Abbatum Monasterii Sancti Albani*, vol. i. p. 315.

Page 8, continuation of note 3. Among the vestments preserved at St. Paul's cathedral when it was visited by Dean Baudak in 1295 was a "*capa Johannis Mansel de panno aureo qui vocatur ciclatoun*" (Dugdale's *St. Paul's*).

Page 21, line 7. *For* "seige" *read* "siege."

Page 37, line 6. Omit the stop at the end of the line.

Page 41. After line 9 insert: On 1st November, 1310, Robert de Cliderhow, rector of Wigan, had the bishop's licence to study for one year from the ensuing Easter (Lichfield Diocesan Register).

In the year 1312 William, son of Jordan de Standisshe, renewed his suit against John de Langton, clerk, for the advowson of the chapel of Wygan. John had called to warranty John, son of Robert de Langton, and Alesia his wife, and Alesia had died, and John now called to warranty Robert, son and heir of Alesia, who was under age, and he prayed that the suit might remain till the full age of the heir, and William conceded this, and it therefore remains over from the quindene of Michaelmas (*Banco*, 6 Edw. II. m. 61 *dorso*). It does not appear whether the suit was carried on after this, but it is certain that Sir Robert de Clyderhou retained possession of the benefice till his death, and that his successor was instituted on the presentation of Robert, son of John de Langton.

Page 45. After line 6 insert: Robert de Clyderhou was buried in Salley Abbey, in the county of York. In the most northerly of three chapels adjoining the north transept of the Abbey a tessellated square of pavement encloses a flat floor tomb-stone, which has contained an effigy of the deceased in brass; but the brass has wholly disappeared, leaving only the hollow excavated for it in the stone. An inscription borders the stone, in deeply incised bold *longo bardic* capitals, the first part of which seems to be in Latinized English, the latter portion in Norman French: ✠ "Syr : Robart : de : Clyderhow : Persone : de : Wyggan : gyst : ycy : Dieu : de : Sa : alme : ayt : verray : mercy" (Harland's *Hist. of Salley Abbey*, 1852; as quoted in Raines's *Lancashire Chantryes*, Chetham Series, lx. p. 212.

Page 46, line 5. After Blackrod, insert : By the name of Ivo de Langton, p'son of Wygan, he was also witness to the foundation of a similar chantry by the said dame Mabel de Bradshaigh in the chapel of Blackrod, dated from Haigh on the same day, viz., Sunday the morrow of St. James the Apostle, 12 Edw. III. 1338 (*Lancashire Chantries*, Chetham series, lix. p. 126, note).

Continuation of note 3. Kobert de Kendale, clerk, of Wigan, who was sued before a jury of twelve men of the town of Wigan, in 17 Edw. III., for feloniously killing Thomas, son of Adam the carpenter of Wigan, at Wigan, on the Monday next before the feast of All Saints, 14 Edw. III. (1340), was probably Ivo de Langton's curate. The jury acquitted him of wilful murder, and recommended him to the King's mercy. He had been struck on the head with a staff by Thomas, and had tried to escape, but was pursued by Thomas, who got him into a corner between two houses, whereupon the said Robert struck him on the head with a knife, so that he died (Lanc. Assize Rolls).

Page 56. After line 5 insert : John de Wynwick died on vi. id. Julii, 1559 (Raines's *MS. Fasti Eborac.*, quoted in his *Lancashire Chantries*, Chetham series, lix. p. 95, note).

Line 8. For "nephew" read "brother."

After line 9 insert : In 32 Edw. III. (1358) William le Botiller of Warrington, chevalier, gave to John de Wynwick, treasurer of the church of St. Peter, of York, and his heirs, xl^s a year, to be received from the manor of Burgh, in Lonsdale, in the duchy of Lancaster, and John de Wynwick granted to the prioress of Norton the said rent of xl^s (Dodsworth, from Close Roll, 32 Edw. III.). In the inquisition *post mortem* of Henry Duke of Lancaster (33 Edw. III.) William le Botiller is returned as holding lands of the Duke, and the jurors say that the said Duke died seized of the advowson of the church of Warrington, which he possessed during the life of William le Botiller, chivalier, by the demise of Richard de Wynwick, *brother and heir of John de Wynwick*, the said William le Botiller having demised it for the said term to the said John de Wynwick (Dodsworth *MSS.* ; Lancashire *MSS.*, vol. xxxviii. p. 78, quoted by Raines in *Lancashire Chantries*, Chetham series, lix., in a page of *corrigenda* prefixed to page 1).

Page 58, line 1. For "4 Hen. IV." read "2 Hen. IV."

Page 65, line 1. After Alice Gerard, insert : In the Calendar of French Rolls, 14 Hen. VI. m. 12, under date of 5th May, 1436, there is the following entry :— "Protection to James de Langton, rector of Wygan, Lanc., and to James Butterly of Wandsworth, Surrey, [going to France] in the retinue of the Duke of York."

Page 69. After line 9, insert : James de Langton, rector of Wigan, and Thomas Rhodes, chaplains, quit claim to Richard Townley of Townley all their right in certain lands and tenements which they had of the gift of Richard, son of Henry Hoghton, Knt. Witnesses : Thomas Hesketh, Geoffrey Osbaldeston. 25 Hen. VI. (Dodsworth *MSS.*, p. 91).

Page 70. *Instead of lines 10-15, read:* I meet with no further mention of Oliver Langton.

JOHN LANGTON, parson of the church of Wigan, occurs 4th July, 1485, as second witness, after Sir Thomas Gerard, Knight, to a deed of Edmund Longley, late warden of the collegiate church in Manchester, granting lands in Hindley to Thomas Langton of Löwe, brother to Gilbert Langton, given at Hindley on Monday next after the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 3 Ric. III. (*Local Gleanings, Lancashire and Cheshire*, vol. i. p. 266, art. 461).

Dr. Kuerden preserves a claim, without date, preferred by John Langton, clerk, parson of the church of Wigan, in which he claims, besides all the privileges conceded to the burgesses, to have the chattels of fugitives and felons, waif and stray, view of frank pledge, gallows and tumbrel, pleas of withernam, jurisdiction of offences committed within the borough, and exemption of the burgesses from being tried without the borough for matters arising within, saving the pleas which belong to the Crown (4to MS. in Chetham Lib. fo. 52, quoted by Baines, *Hist. Lanc.*, vol. iii. p. 534).

Page 180. After line 20 insert : At an inquest held at Bolton-on-the-Moors on 15th April, 1612, it was found that Randle Barton of Smythells, Esq., who died 10th December, 1611, was seized of a burgage, a messuage, an acre of land and an acre of meadow in Wigan worth 6s. a year clear, which were held of Gerard Massie, Regius Professor and rector of the parish church of Wigan, in free and common socage by fealty only (Inq. p. m., 10 James, No. 44).

Page 261. At the end of note 2 insert : The old house (or part of it) is still standing near to the junction of School Street in Scholes with a new street which runs over the river Douglas from Standishgate to Scholes. It still bears the name of "the School House," and is occupied as a cottage, in which the present tenant has lived for about seventy years.

Page 423, note, 7th line from the bottom. After Chief Justice Bridgeman insert : Katherine Bridgeman, wife of bishop Henry Bridgeman, died in or before 1679, in which year administration of her goods was granted (Wills and Administrations in Probate Court at Chester).

Page 444, line 27, *For* "Richardi" *read* "Rolandi."

Page 460, line 7. After Elizabeth insert a reference to note. Note 1. Her baptism is thus entered in the Wigan parish register 24th May, 1629 : "Elizbeth Bridgman Do^r to Arlndowe gentilmā;" and her burial 17th July of the same year : "Elizbeth Bridgman do^r to Mr. Landoe my Lordes son."

Page 471. Continuation of note 3. In 1652 (the year before Bradshaw's retirement) there is an *item* in the Wigan churchwardens' account book of 15s. "to William Johnson, Richard Dobson, and others for dressing the church and churchyard after the fight."

Page 473. Continuation of note 3. Charles Hotham was born 12th May, 1615, and educated at Christ's College, Cambridge. He graduated B.A. in 1635-6, and M.A. in 1639. On 5th November, 1640, he was presented to the family living at Hollyn, near Beverley, in Yorkshire, which he resigned before 5th October, 1644. He then returned to Cambridge, where he was elected fellow of Peterhouse in June of that year and served the office of Proctor of the University, in 1646 [*ex inf.* Mr. C. W. Sutton]. His wife, Elizabeth, was buried at Little Driffeld, Yorkshire, in April, 1635. [*Ibid.*]

Page 476, lines 24 and 31. For "vain" read "voice," and omit the comma before it., lines 26 and 28, 29. For "Peterham" read "Peterhouse."

Page 601, line 21. After York insert : Mr. Finch proceeded M.A. at Cambridge in 1679, and became fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge (*Dic. Nat. Biogr.* art. contributed by Miss Middleton). He represented the university of Cambridge in the parliament of 1689-90, having been returned 20th February, 1689-90 (Parliaments of England). He was ordained deacon at York in 1700 (*Dic. Nat. Biogr.*). After his appointment as prebendary of York in 1704 he resided in the north end of the treasurer's house in the close, and took an active interest in the church music. His "*Te Deum*" and anthem, "*Grant, we beseech Thee,*" both written in five parts, are preserved in Dr. Tudway's "Collection of Services" in the British Museum (Harl. MSS. 7337-7342). A "Grammar of Thorough Bass," with examples, a MS. of 66 pages, is in the Ewing Library at Glasgow (*Dic. Nat. Biogr.*). He was installed prebendary of Canterbury 8th February, 1709-10. At the time of his death in 1737-8 he was a prebend or canon residentiary of both Canterbury and York.

Page 649, line 23. For "convinee" read "convince."

Page 673, line 1. For "Mary" read "Frances Rose."

Page 680, line 16. For "31st July" read "1st August."

Page 688, line 30. For "bishop Stratford" read "rector Finch."

Page 762, line 2. For "Wilkinson" read "Williamson."

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The Forty-fifth Report

(6th NEW SERIES)

OF THE

COUNCIL OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY,

*Read at the Annual Meeting, held by permission of the Feoffees, in the
Audit Room of Chetham's Hospital, on Wednesday, the 11th
day of April, 1888, by adjournment from the 1st of March.*

THE Council is at length able to congratulate the members on the completion of the Old Series of the Society's publications by the issue of the Second Part of the *Inventories of Church Goods*. The state of Mr. BAILEY's health has unfortunately not allowed him to complete the work, but as the Returns for the Hundreds of West Derby, Blackburn, and Leyland had for some time been in type, the Council after much consideration came to the conclusion that the course most in accordance with the interests of the Society, and the wishes of the members, would be to issue the Inventories for these hundreds, thus completing the work so far as Lancashire south of the Ribble is concerned, and to leave for the present the Hundreds of Amounderness, Lonsdale, and Furness, in the hope that Mr. Bailey's health might soon be sufficiently restored to allow of his undertaking these portions, and giving the Introduction promised in the First Part, which it is certain will add greatly to the value of the publication.

Separate Indices of several unindexed, or only partially indexed, volumes of the Old Series have also been printed; and the General Index to Vols. xxxi-cxiv. which has been compiled by Mr. W. E. A. AXON, is now in the hands of the printer, and will be issued to the members in the course of two or three months.

Four volumes of the New Series have appeared during the past year, Volume 12, *Crosby Records*, being the third volume for the year 1885-6, and the three volumes for 1886-7, being Volume 13, *The Bibliography of the Writings of Dr. Worthington*, by the PRESIDENT; Volume 14, Part III. of the *Coucher Book of Furness Abbey*, completing the work, edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, D.C.L.; and Volume 15, *The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan*, by the Hon. and Rev. Canon BRIDGEMAN, Part I.

Though the Bibliography of the writings of Dr. WORTHINGTON is not perhaps in itself of much interest or importance, yet it is a work which it was certainly the duty of the Society to issue, being, in fact, a supplement to, or completion of, Dr. Worthington's *Diary and Correspondence*. But though Worthington's own writings were never important, and have now perhaps completely lost the interest they once had, yet it is believed that the notices of the numerous editions of his translation of the *De Imitatione*, published under the title of *The Christian's Pattern*, and of the editions of the *Select Discourses* of John Smith, will be found to contain much matter of interest as well of a biographical, as of a bibliographical character. Something like a complete catalogue of the editions of these works, as well as of Dr. Worthington's own original writings, is now for the first time attempted, and contains the enumeration of many editions hitherto entirely unknown.

With the Third Part of the *Furness Coucher*, this important and valuable work, for which the Society is indebted to the liberality of the DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, is brought to an end. The total cost of transcribing, editing, printing, and issuing the three volumes has amounted to the sum of £583 19s. 5d. The request originally made to His Grace was that he would bear the cost of transcribing and editing the volume of the Coucher Book now in the Record Office, which related to possessions of a large part of which he is now the owner. This request he not only complied with, but expressed his wish to defray in addition the entire cost of printing and issuing the work, a cost which has very largely exceeded the estimate then submitted to him. It would have been impossible for the Society to have undertaken this work without pecuniary assistance, for it had no funds available to pay either a transcriber or an editor, and it would, in the judgment of the Council, have been also impossible to find a competent amateur to undertake the work. It should be added that the mere printing of these three thick volumes would have seriously

crippled the Society's finances. The members will unanimously and cordially concur with the Council in the feeling of deep gratitude to the Duke for his most welcome and timely generosity.

Of the general character of the book sufficient has been said in former Reports, but the value of the new volume is enhanced by the Introductory Chapter of the editor, the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, the main interest of which consists in the notices of the Abbots of Furness, the list of whom is both fuller, more accurate, and more nearly complete than any which has hitherto appeared. It is to be hoped that at some future time the other volume of the *Coucher Book*, now unfortunately lost to this country, may be printed, with other extant documents illustrating the history of the Abbey.

The First Part of Canon BRIDGEMAN'S *History of the Church and Manor of Wigan*, coming down to the death of Rector Gerard Massey in 1616, will be found to be full of important and interesting matter hitherto unprinted. The position of the Rector of Wigan as Lord of the Manor, possessing the great powers conferred by the Charter of King Edward III., is probably unique, for though other parishes may be found in which the Rector was Lord of the Manor, yet in none did he possess these extensive powers, nor had under his government, civil as well as ecclesiastical, an important and flourishing borough. The present volume has a two-fold interest. On the one hand the biographies of John Maunsell, John de Winwick, and Thomas Linacre have not only a local but a general interest; on the other, the incessant quarrels and law-suits between the successive Rectors and the Mayor and Burgesses of Wigan throw a flood of light on Lancashire men and things during several centuries. When the work is completed by the Second Part, it will certainly prove to be one of the most valuable and interesting local histories which have been issued by the Society.

By the death of William Adam Hulton, Esq., formerly a County Court Judge at Liverpool and afterwards at Preston, the Society has lost one of its oldest and most valued members. He was for twenty-seven years a member of its Council, and the editor of several volumes of great merit. *The Coucher Book of Whalley*, and the *Documents relating to the Priory of Penwortham*, are worthy predecessors of the *Coucher Book of Furness*, and have given to their learned editor a high place among Lancashire antiquaries.

The volumes now in progress or contemplated are :

The History of the Church and Manor of Wigan, by the Hon. and Rev. Canon BRIDGEMAN, Part II. (This will form the first volume for the year 1887-8.)

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